

# THE GATEWAY

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## Summer H1N1 infection at experimental farm revealed



JONATHAN TAVES  
Deputy News Editor

A few staff and swine at the University of Alberta experimental farm felt under the weather this past summer as a wave of the H1N1 flu virus passed through the facility.

The outbreak, which occurred in June, was only discussed publicly recently after media got wind of the story earlier in the week.

In both the swine and human cases, symptoms were mild, and officials said proper procedure was followed which prevented serious consequences and further infection.

"The first thing we did was make sure everybody at the University that needs to know was informed, and that included the leaders of the various academic units," said Carl Amrhein, U of A Provost and Vice President (Academic).

"At the time we were notifying all government people and University people, we were also taking a good look at the employees and talking to them when it was determined a small number of employees also had symptoms. And as it turned out two of them had H1N1."

The U of A's pigs make up the second known infected herd in the province. Over 2,000 pigs were culled in May at a farm near Rocky Mountain House, when a worker returning from Mexico transmitted the virus to them.

Such drastic action was not necessary this time.

"There's a few good reasons why that particular farm was put under a quarantine and why certain things were done, and it was basically because

of the uncertainty revolving around the virus at the time," explained Dr. Gerald Hauer, Chief Provincial Veterinarian of Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development. "The bottom line is that we know a lot more about the virus than we did before."

Even so, the initial effect of the outbreak did trouble the University's administration.

"It was extraordinarily worrisome. We had, at the time, no idea of the parameters of what the infection might be," Amrhein said. "We convened a management team so that we could stay in rapid contact with the public health officials, and various ministries."

"Different ministries have responsibility for different parts of something like this, and the ministries then had to stay in touch with everybody that they had to report to at the federal level and the [World Health Organization] level."

Extensive testing was done to track the virus' effects, but its origins remain unknown.

"It's a secure bio-containment facility, so one argument is well the animals were safe, so the humans brought it in," Amrhein said, adding that there's opposition to this assumption, and tests are ongoing to find its source.

The news didn't become widely known until September because of government procedure.

"There was no public announcement for the simple reason that the rule is in Alberta that it's [the government's] responsibility to decide when and how to alert the public," Amrhein said.

PLEASE SEE **SWINE** ♦ PAGE 5

## Students flexing bio-mechanical biceps for Boston conference

DEREK SCHUTZ  
News Writer

Students from 14 different departments will be assembling to represent the University of Alberta in competing against teams from Harvard, MIT, and Stanford at this year's International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) conference in Boston on October 31.

The iGEM competition is in its fourth year, and has attracted 112 teams from around the world to create biological machines out of interchangeable parts. Past projects have included synthetic blood and wintergreen-scented bacteria, but this year, the bar has been lifted with the competition being geared towards the idea of manufacturing artificial chromosomes.

"The global project this year was to design new technology for the rapid assembly of DNA pieces with the idea of building artificial chromosomes," said Michael Ellison, an advisor to this year's team and professor of biochemistry at the U of A. "This year is involved not only in

the chemical development of the rapid synthesis of DNA, but also the development of automatable systems."

This automation comes care of a modified Lego Mindstorms system, a robotics set that only costs around \$300. This underscores the importance of the self-reliant philosophy in the iGEM competition, as well as in the emerging field of synthetic biology.

"This is a big part of the iGEM competition, a section called DIY (do-it-yourself), where the idea with synthetic biology is to try to be able to make this technology accessible to as many people as possible," Ellison said. "People are starting to set up labs in garages."

iGEM remains at the center of innovation in the field of synthetic biology because it has allowed students to take part in a process that was once reserved for professionals.

"Synthetic biology owes an awful lot to iGEM because it has demonstrated that undergraduate students are capable of doing some pretty phenomenal things," Ellison added. "Some of the



MATHEW LETERSK

**STYLISH IN THEIR GENES** U of A students are constructing artificial chromosomes for the event.

projects they are doing dwarf in terms of imagination and creativity the kinds of stuff that are being done in conventional research labs where lots of money is being spent. It's very grassroots."

Not only has iGEM helped to further the field of synthetic biology, it has also helped to train

tomorrow's researchers in current lab practices.

"I learned more in the first week of being involved in iGEM stuff than all of my second-year labs," said Steven Jahns, a third-year genetics student.

PLEASE SEE **BIO** ♦ PAGE 5

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### Campus crannies

Robert Frigon ventures through aged buildings and mystery doors to highlight the U of A's best-kept secrets

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### Festival flicks

Edmontonian filmmaker Heather Taylor is living across the pond, but she's returning to premiere two films at EIFF

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## ‘Recession-proof’ industries continue to turn a profit

High on the list of businesses that resist the flux of economic downturn are gambling and other vices

PAIGE PARSONS  
News Writer

As people around the world have collectively tightened their belts in the wake of the economic recession, many industries have taken a hit through decreased profits. But the slowdown isn't all bankruptcy and bad news — some industries are thriving despite the economic decline.

It seems industries that cater to the bare essentials or distract people from personal difficulties are still going strong even with the widespread hardship many businesses are facing.

Lloyd Steier, a business professor with the Department of Strategic Management and Organization at the University of Alberta, cited industries that meet basic human needs as the most successful during recessions.

“People still need to eat, they need to take care of health issues, they need to educate their children, and they need security. All these things are essential and they are the items that will be cut last,” Steier said.

In 2008, the CTV television network released a list of recession-proof industries in Canada, all of which help Canadians meet their basic needs. Food, health care, security, education, and funeral homes all made the list. According to Steier, luxury industries are taking the biggest hit, so it's interesting to learn that cell phones were also included on the CTV list.

It seems that cell phones have transitioned from a luxury to an indispensable commodity that Canadians

aren't willing to give up. CTV cited the versatility of mobile phones as computers, music players, and personal organizers as one of the reasons they've become a necessary item.

Another must-have item that has garnered profits despite the recession is based on the idea that carnal desire counts as a basic human need. A report from Newsweek last month reveals that the downturn in the economy hasn't inhibited people's sex lives; condom sales were up five per cent at the end of 2008, as compared to the same time in 2007.

Aside from the essentials, it seems that people are willing to spend cash on escaping the doom and gloom of reality. The “Escapism Industry,” which includes various cheap entertainments, as well as vice businesses, such as gambling and tobacco, provides affordable mental vacations. Steier added that people who are out of work have more leisure time, and need inexpensive diversions.

“If people are unemployed or facing difficulties, they might go to movies, rent DVDs, consume more alcohol, or even turn to the gaming industry,” he said.

Even though some industries have been sheltered from the downturn, many individuals are still left asking whether or not starting a business during a recession can be profitable.

According to Steier, it absolutely can. Businesses started in a recession tend to be more frugal and disciplined from the outset, and therefore have good long-term potential. As long as an



DAN MCKECHNIE

**SINE QUA NON** Despite having lighter wallets, it seems there are some things, like cell phones and alcohol, that most Canadians aren't willing to go without.

individual has a viable business plan and a lucrative product, it's very possible to succeed, despite the economy.

“Your products or services have to be perceived as offering good quality, no matter where they're priced,” he said.

U of A students may be among those who will experience entrepreneurial success during the downturn. The recession seems to have inspired exciting innovation amongst students.

“There is a level of activity at the student level that I think is unprecedented,” Steier said of the recent projects and ideas he has seen put forth by his students.

He said that he believes the current postsecondary generation understands the implications of the recession, and is quite capable of overcoming economic difficulties.

It seems that even though opportunities aren't limitless during this recession, there's certainly money to be made if you're aware of the market and willing to get creative.

“The reality is there are fewer jobs, and there are fewer opportunities for lifelong employment. Young people seem to get that. They are willing to embrace entrepreneurship in ways I've never seen before,” Steier said.

## STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by  
Jonathan Taves and Sam Brooks

*As you may be aware, Swedish thieves recently robbed a cash depot using a stolen helicopter.*  
**If you were to pull off a heist, what would you steal and how?**

**Mike Veltri**  
Arts IV**Jocelyn St. Amour**  
Pharmacy II**Thomas Fry**  
Phys Ed III**Rebecca Verveda**  
Arts I

You know what I would steal? A space shuttle [...] I'd have to become an engineer and learn how to fly that thing. I would pose as a pilot. Who flies the space shuttle? [*Astronauts.*] Right, I would pose as an astronaut and I would hijack the space shuttle. Yeah, I wouldn't steal it, I'd hijack it; but find a way to get on the space shuttle first.

I'd go straight for cash. BMO totally screwed me over by giving me a line of credit, so maybe I'd take it from BMO, and then give it back to them. I don't know how, though, probably a squirrel suit.

I would steal Paris Hilton's virginity. How? Get a time machine.

I would dig a tunnel. I kind of want to dig a tunnel from the ocean, so when I escape, I could go back to the ocean to my submarine [...] I'd do it in Japan. I'll dig a tunnel from a cliff in, and at the top of the cliff, there will be a technology building, and I'll steal the latest Japanese robotic equipment.

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# Pickling yields natural preservative

BRENT PUCHALSKI  
News Writer

Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science Professor Michael Gänzle and fellow researchers at the University of Alberta have developed a new set of food preservative agents which are naturally derived.

Food today is often prepared more by its processors than consumers, such as luncheon meats and microwaveable dinners. More convenient foods are stocking grocery shelves, and ready-to-eat items are growing in prominence.

“Most of the stuff which [was] done by the household 50 years ago is now done by the food industry,” Gänzle said. “Which means that less food items, [and] meals, are prepared from scratch.”

As the role of the processor grows, so do concerns about food safety, as highlighted by the listeria outbreak in Maple Leaf products last year, for example. Concerns about the health risks of inorganic preservatives and heightened awareness of food-borne illnesses is powering new outlooks in food safety.

“You can control much of the [disease-causing bacteria] by chemical preservatives. For ready-to-eat meats, you can add sodium lactate and sodium diacetate. [It] doesn’t make your food taste any better,” Gänzle said.

Interest in more organic and natural alternatives to chemicals is driving research. Gänzle’s own research involves two different groups of compounds: the bacteriocins and polyphenols, and their anti-microbial properties.

Bacteriocins are compounds that are produced by lactic acid bacteria, such as *Lactobacillus reuteri*. These bacteria are involved in pickling and other traditional preserves. Bacteriocins have been found to be



PETE YEE

**WHEAT SCIENCE** Professor Gänzle is making safer and healthier preservatives.

as effective as inorganic additives in controlling germs like listeria, without altering flavour and being easy to utilize. Gänzle’s research focused on specific bacteriocins, determining their potency and mode of action.

“You take what is there naturally and you try to fortify it,” Gänzle noted.

However, Gänzle discovered that germs such as *E. coli* and salmonella aren’t stopped; their structure makes bacteriocins ineffective. But combinations with other methods, like high-pressure treatment for meat, make bacteriocins effective against these germs too. Bacteriocins in this combination were also found to be more effective at eradicating harmful bacteria than chemical agents. Prepared foods like salads and cold cut meats are most likely to apply this technology; but its utilization as of yet is not widespread.

Gänzle has also done research on polyphenols derived from plants, specifically gallotannins. Plants produce a variety of anti-microbial agents,

like polyphenols, which can be isolated and potentially used in food. Researchers with Gänzle demonstrated that polyphenols from mango kernels have an ability to inhibit pathogens; however, how they work is unclear for now.

“A mode of action for polyphenols can differ quite substantially. We don’t know yet the effectiveness of polyphenols,” Gänzle noted.

In addition, factors in the system, like iron, can inhibit the potency of some polyphenols. Polyphenols, though, can be applied to more types of foods and are effective against a wider range of germs. Meat and dairy are likely candidates for their application, though it isn’t ready yet.

With consumers demanding a challenging medley of safe, convenient, affordable, and healthy foods, processors must be on the cutting edge of innovation. Researchers see the potential for natural preservatives as a win-win situation for both consumers and producers.

# ICCER partnerships approach finalization

Future research done at the Centre will explore ‘aging-in-place’ treatments

KRISTIN PUE  
News Writer

The University of Alberta is currently in the process of finalizing its role as a partner organization in the Institute for Continuing Care Education and Research (ICCER). Focused on improving the field of continuing care, the ICCER was founded by the U of A, Alberta Health Services, Capital Care, and Norquest College in October 2008.

The ICCER is committed to stimulating and supporting research and its application, and fostering improvements in education for continuing care workers.

Essentially, the ICCER is a commitment from each of the partner organizations to continuing care as a field, and to communication between each respective group.

“So far we’ve been working to establish an affiliation agreement with four organizations,” said Sandra Woodhead Lyons, the interim director of ICCER. “It is in its final stages.”

The number of seniors in Alberta is expected to increase by more than 40 per cent in the next decade, which means that the continuing care sector will be increasingly important. The ICCER is working to bring several key issues in the continuing care sector to attention, as well as potential means of addressing those concerns.

“How do you support a person

needing continuing care in High Level?” Woodhead Lyons inquired. “There are a number of pilot projects in Alberta looking at distance care.”

According to Woodhead Lyons, within the continuing care strategy, there is a shift towards aging in place, which means that patients are encouraged to stay in their homes as long as it is safely practicable to do so.

**“How do you support a person needing continuing care in High Level? There are a number of pilot projects in Alberta looking at distance care.”**

SANDRA WOODHEAD LYONS  
INTERIM DIRECTOR, ICCER

Under this practice, patients in continuing care live in their homes rather than a facility, and are provided the proper equipment to live safe and healthy lives.

The ICCER is also involved in bringing attention to issues related to patient safety, and is committed to aiding and encouraging research in the continuing care sector.

The original vision of this organization was the creation of a physical teaching centre, where different health care workers in continuing care could learn in an integrated environment. Although building plans have been put on hold due to financial difficulties, the ICCER hopes to pick the project back up as soon as possible.

“[The ICCER partner organizations] realized that whether the continuing care centre was built or not, the concept was more than one building,” Woodhead Lyons explained.

“We have the opportunity and ability to bring together many groups and perspectives.”

The emphasis on collaboration in research is incredibly important in dealing with the various challenges facing the health care system, Woodhead Lyons added. Although it’s a new organization, the ICCER has the potential to make significant advances in the continuing care sector, through promoting cooperation among partner organizations, researchers, and increased communication with the government.

Woodhead Lyons believes the large scope and strong communication will advance knowledge in the field.

“The ICCER will be encouraging research to be done, and working with researchers and practitioners to increase the amount of communication among them.”

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# Agriculture takes back seat to household pets in new ALES course

ELZBIETA MYRLAK  
News Writer

A companion animal nutrition course, which focuses on the dietary needs of pets and exotic animals rather than livestock, has been introduced by the University of Alberta's Faculty of Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES) this fall.

The course, which has been on the academic calendar since 2006, was finally offered this year to coincide with the start of the new Bachelor of Science in Animal Health degree.

Ruurd Zijlstra and Barbara Metzler-Zebeli share the teaching responsibilities for the course. Although both specialize in swine nutrition, the differences between certain animals' nutritive requirements aren't vast.

"It's not a big leap to come from swine nutrition to cat and dog nutrition; they have a very similar digestive physiology, so you can basically build on your own knowledge," he explained.

"What is really unique about cats and dogs relative to pigs is that with pigs, we want to make sure that they reach

slaughter weight, [...] but with cats and dogs we don't have a specific end point in mind; we want to make sure we have a healthy lifestyle nutrition pattern, same as we have for humans. So it's something new because you're dealing with a different species, but also something new because you're dealing with a new philosophy behind the nutrition program," Zijlstra said.

Apart from reviewing nutrients and the digestive physiology of pets, the course will spend three weeks on life-cycle nutrition for dogs and cats. Further, it will cover diet ingredients and analysis, and the process of manufacturing pet food.

"We start with the basic nutrients that all animals need, feeding behavior, how diets are made, [...] how food is processed, the regulations for labeling, etc.," Metzler-Zebeli explained, adding the majority of the course will focus on birds, cats, dogs, and reptiles. Small animals will be briefly mentioned, as will topics on nutritional disorders and new foodstuffs.

"We have a new animal health program that will start later this academic

year, and this course is a key component of one of the majors in that program: the companion animal major," Zijlstra said.

Although primarily designed for students in animal health, some of the 15 students currently enrolled are in animal science, and human nutrition.

"If the student wants to take the course, and we think the student is qualified to take it, we will accept him," Zijlstra said. However, the course does have specific prerequisites, and students must generally be from ALES.

Zijlstra highlighted three probable routes for people who take the class.

"People who end up with a Bachelor of Science and would like to find a job using that part of their education," he said. "People that go through this program and have in mind veterinary science, and people that are in the B.Sc. just as a stepping stone to a graduate program and use this course to gather some ideas of what to do next in their science career."

Although Zijlstra noted that most jobs are still in livestock nutrition, trained pet nutritionists are also in demand,



CLAUDINE CHAMPION

**CHOW DOWN** Zijlstra and Metzler-Zebeli will teach a new pet nutrition class.

as there is a shortage of professionals due to a lack of university programs in this field. The course is also helpful for those striving to be veterinarians.

"It's very helpful to know how to feed an animal because usually [veterinarians] only treat sick animals [with]

nutritional disorders, but it's also nice for them to know how animals can be fed correctly, so the disorder doesn't come up later," Metzler-Zebeli said.

Companion Animal Nutrition will be offered yearly. The B.Sc. in Animal Health will begin in Winter 2010.

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# Annual fundraiser for CF to occur Saturday

DAVID JOHNSTON  
Opinion Editor

On September 26, university students will be once again taking to the streets to shine up the spring in their step — and that of those around them.

This Saturday marks the 45th anniversary of Shinerama, a national annual program devoted to raising awareness for cystic fibrosis, as well as pocket change and donations from on-the-street passersby in exchange for footwear polishing.

For Christina Yang and Jillian Popel, the organizers of the Shinerama initiative at the University this year, the combination of shoe-shining and cystic fibrosis isn't about a deep-rooted connection between the two.

"It's very interesting," noted Yang, a second-year medicine student. "I don't know how that first person came up with that idea, but here we are today."

She elaborated that the campaign originated at Waterloo University in 1964 during their Orientation week, and has evolved over the decades into Canada's largest postsecondary fundraiser.

Indeed, the shining of shoes isn't the end-all of the event, but a hook on which to raise awareness.

"Just a lot of people in general don't really know what cystic fibrosis is," Popel added. "Before I got into

university, even, I didn't really. You hear about it and know they have problems with their lungs, but that's about it — a lot of people don't know."

Popel had her eyes opened when she volunteered two years ago at the University of Calgary's Shine Day, the precipitating event that led her to co-organizing the cross-city extravaganza.

**"This year we're actually aiming for more than 700 [volunteers] — it's really kind of a show-up-on-the-day and see what happens."**

CHRISTINA YANG  
SHINERAMA ORGANIZER

They're not alone in the endeavour, however.

"We have a committee of maybe 20 other medical students who work so hard — setting up the locations, organizing everything, recruiting volunteers, financial work [...] It's really a team effort, it's not just the two of us," Popel said. And that doesn't count the army of volunteer shiners pulled from university students on the day — consisting of anyone who shows up at Celebration Plaza at 8:30

on the morning of September 26.

"Last year, we had over 500 volunteers," Yang said, who participated in her first Shine Day last year. "This year, we're actually aiming for more than 700, at least. We'll kind of see how it goes — it's really kind of a show-up-on-the-day and see what happens."

Both Yang and Popel agree that the event has the potential to be bigger and brighter — although last year's proceeds of \$15,000 may seem large, they pale in comparison to the more than \$100,000 Western Ontario University pulls in every year. Their Shinerama event is co-ordinated through their Students' Union, possibly setting a precedent for the U of A.

"But I think we do pretty well despite not having that kind of support," Popel noted. "Since 1985, we've raised over \$300,000 for Shinerama."

Indeed, both Popel and Yang are optimistic for a weekend of bright shoes and opened eyes towards cystic fibrosis. This year's goal is \$20,000, and organizers hope the sun shines to help them reach that target.

"We have our fingers crossed for beautiful weather," Popel laughed. "But even if we don't have any, it'll be fine."

To volunteer for Shinerama, interested students can visit med2012.com, or show up to Celebration Plaza this Saturday, ready to bring a little more shine to the city.

## Conference focus: robotics

BIO ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"The stuff you're doing is actually for something [...] The results might surprise you."

The iGEM competition has also allowed students to learn about the business side of research according to David Lloyd, a fourth-year bio-chemistry student at the.

"There's a lot of opportunity here. There's a lot of ways you can get involved in a business sense, and in a science sense," he said.

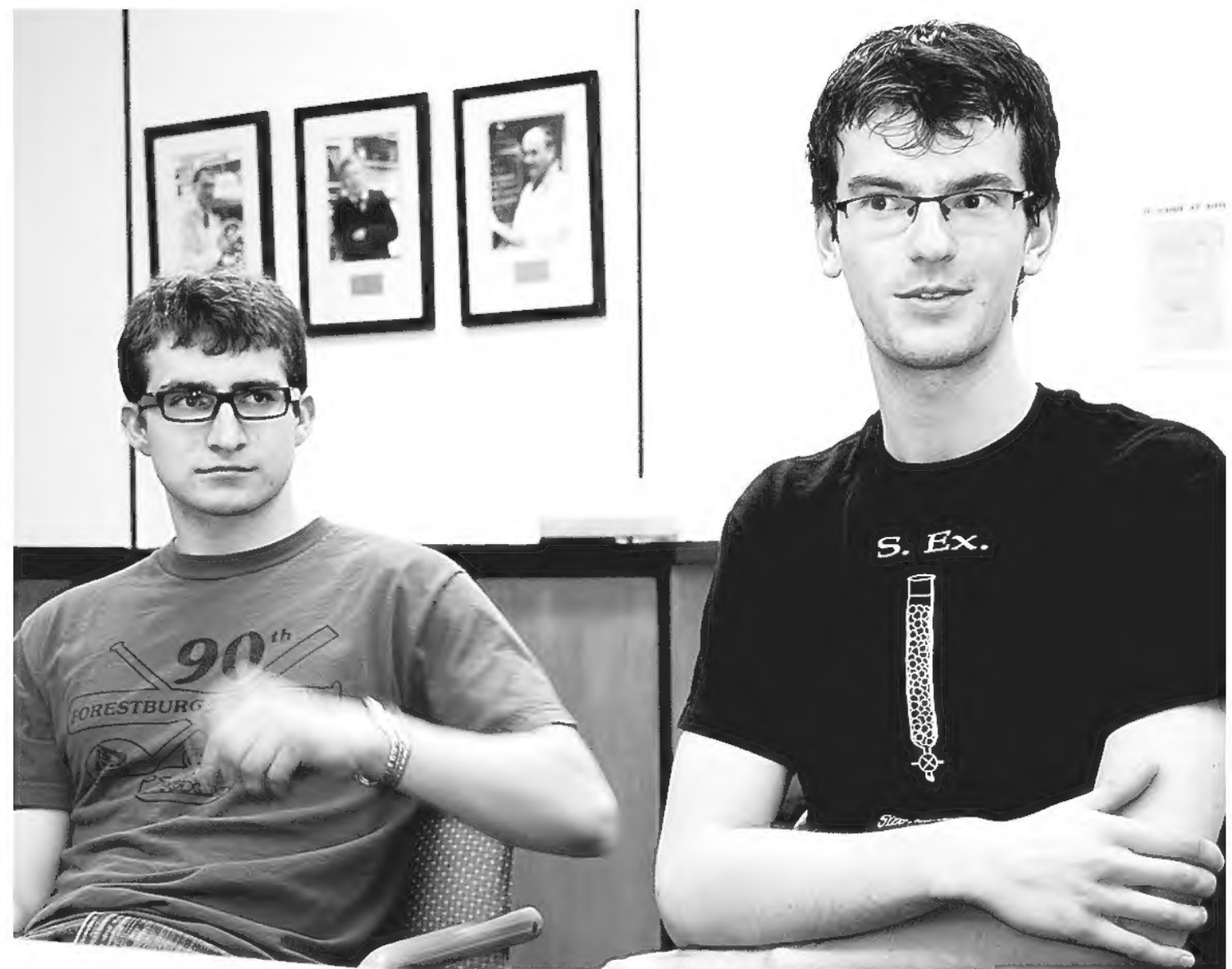
But some of the lessons have been learned the hard way, as the current economic turmoil has dried up investment and donations not only for the

U of A's team but also for teams around the world.

"The other problem is the economic circumstances. It's pretty rough this year to try to raise money," Ellison said. "It's pretty hard when you're from a developing country and there's been a massive economic collapse."

Nevertheless, the team feels that the quality of this year's project and enthusiasm for the competition has not been adversely affected.

"This year, we are really aiming for the big one," Ellison added. "We've put a lot of effort into this. We're going down to win."



MATHEW LETERSK

**WELL-ROUNDED** David Lloyd and Steven Jahns, both participants on the 2009 iGEM team, appreciate the wide variety of skills the competition teaches them.

## Infected pigs were spared from culling

SWINE ♦ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"They're the ones that have to deal with the public health issues."

Hauer added that it wasn't necessary to publicize the information.

"The average general public out there was not in any risk; the only people at risk were people who had close contact with sick pigs, the

workers that went into the barn," he said. "Everybody that needed to know certainly was notified."

The animals and people have since all returned to full health, and officials are glad that mandated action was effective.

"We've been working on refining our response capacity ever since

the norovirus outbreak in Lister. Personally I wished we never had a good chance to test that, but this came along, and we feel pretty pleased that things worked out very well," Amrhein concluded.

"There weren't a lot of unanticipated questions; we knew who to call and when to call."

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Polling stations will be open on campus from 9–4:30pm on Thursday and  
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from 9am Thursday – 5pm Friday.

# Solar home lights up fossil-fuelled night

ALEXANDRIA ELDRIDGE  
CUP Alberta and Northern Bureau Chief

EDMONTON (CUP) — A solar home designed and built by Calgary students has been accepted into next month's Solar Decathlon competition in Washington, D.C. and will be showcased at the 2010 Olympic games in Vancouver.

A team of 100 students, faculty, and staff from four different postsecondary institutions came together to work on the Alberta Solar Decathlon Project, in which they constructed a fully functional 800-square-foot solar home. The team consists of students from the University of Calgary, Mount Royal University, the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT) Polytechnic, and the Alberta College of Art and Design (ACAD).

The project manager, Matt Beck, is a graduate student in the Faculty of Environmental Design at the University of Calgary. He said that the solar home will help to show that Alberta can be an innovator in alternative energy, not just a haven for fossil fuels.

"From an Albertan perspective, one of the real reasons that we as a team got involved in this was the opportunity to tell a different story. Everybody hears the story of Alberta as an oil and gas leader, but we wanted to show that Alberta is a centre for energy excellence," Beck said.

The collaboration between so many students from different disciplines made the project a strong reflection of real life cross-field collaboration.

"The fact that I get to sit down at table with a business student, or a tradesperson from SAIT Polytechnic, or an interior designer from Mount Royal, or an artist from ACAD and see how they're coming to this project [...] that's how we work in industry," Beck said.

The solar home took over two years to complete. In January 2009, the team learned that the house was accepted



SUPPLIED

**SUN SHOWER** Builders want to showcase energy alternatives with this home.

into the 2009 Solar Decathlon competition in Washington, DC, which takes place next month.

The project chair is Mark Blackwell, an undergraduate student in the Haskayne School of Business at the University of Calgary. He said that he was "ecstatic" to learn that the team's project had been accepted.

"Being the first western Canadian team to ever compete in the competition is a huge feat," said Blackwell.

In order to personalize the house, the team incorporated Albertan style elements, such as Rundle stones from Canmore and reclaimed barn wood to highlight Alberta's agricultural history.

"It has a very Alberta feel to it, so we've stuck to our heritage there. But at the same time we ensured that we're showcasing on an international stage what Alberta's actually doing on the alternative and emerging technology side," Blackwell stated.

The team is going to get a chance to show off their house to a much bigger market as well — at the 2010 Olympic Games in Vancouver.

"I think it aligns perfectly with the goals and the vision of the Vancouver

Organizing Committee," Blackwell said. "They have a huge focus this year on showcasing sustainability in all their operations and this house compliments that vision."

Beck commented on the importance of this Olympic showcase for creating public awareness.

"As much as the Solar Decathlon is a great opportunity to build public awareness in Washington, it is not exactly close to home. Vancouver is a lot closer to home and it's an even bigger international stage," Beck stated.

Both Blackwell and Beck emphasized that the goal of the project is to show consumers that they can be environmentally savvy and not sacrifice aesthetics, even in Alberta.

"We're really excited to show people that solar power is something that can be possible here and it can look nice — it's not just an ugly set of solar panels on a roof. It can be integrated nicely architecturally, coupled with energy efficiency, it can be marketable," said Beck.

The team's progress is updated on [www.solabode.ca](http://www.solabode.ca).

## Ban on driving and texting weighed in East

ASHLEY GABOURY  
CUP Central Bureau Chief

WINNIPEG (CUP) — Increasing evidence regarding the dangers of distracted driving has a number of provinces considering legislation to ban texting and talking on held-held devices while driving.

Manitoba passed legislation this summer and Saskatchewan recently announced it is looking to pass similar legislation this fall.

Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Ontario, and Quebec have already passed legislation prohibiting the use of hand-held devices while driving. British Columbia has announced that it too is looking into a similar ban.

Premier Brad Wall announced on September 1 that the Saskatchewan government is interested in legislation that will ban texting and talking on a hand-held device while driving.

"There are compelling, true-life tragedies of, especially young people, who weren't drinking and driving, but whose lives were lost because of texting and driving," Wall told the *Saskatoon StarPhoenix* earlier this month.

"We would be looking at a ban on texting and cell use, but not on hands-free [phones]. We're not going to ban cell use completely but, certainly we want to encourage hands-free."

Tony Playter, Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) media

relations manager, said that SGI looks to educate drivers on the dangers of driving while distracted.

"The use of cell phones and texting is rapidly increasing [and] causes driver distraction, but there are other distractions. We find people reading, applying make-up, eating or drinking, looking at external objects. Those all pose collision risks," said Playter.

**"We find people  
reading, applying  
make-up, eating or  
drinking, looking  
at external objects.  
Those all pose  
collision risks."****TONY PLAYTER**  
SPOKESPERSON, SGI

The legislation in Manitoba was drafted in 2008 and then passed on June 12, 2009.

Ron Lemieux, Manitoba's infrastructure and transportation minister, announced the beginning of a public awareness campaign called See the Signs on September 21.

"We can't say enough how important it is to pay full attention while driving a vehicle and bringing in the new law will address the issue of a major distraction, so motorists can

focus on what matters most: the road," Lemieux stated in a news release.

The amendments to the Highway Traffic Act, which will be proclaimed into law within the first half of 2010, would ban handheld cell phone use and texting while driving. It would also prohibit smoking in a vehicle when a child under the age of 16 is present.

Statistics provided by Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation show that drivers who text while driving are 23 per cent more likely to be involved in a motor vehicle collision. The statistics also show that drivers who use a cell phone are four times more likely to be a car accident serious enough to injure themselves.

When legislation in Manitoba is enforced, a fine of \$190.80 will be issued for talking or texting with a handheld device.

Samantha Charran, public relations coordinator for the Canadian Automobile Association (CAA) said that her organization is pleased Manitoba has moved forward with legislation concerning distracted driving.

"For a long, long time, CAA has called for legislation that asks people not to be distracted drivers. Cell phones and texting, that's just part of distracted driving," Charran said.

"We're happy that Manitoba is moving forward with banning talking on cell phones in cars and banning texting, but we still believe that distracted driving on a whole still needs to be looked at."



## Transportation plan doesn't permit any connections

LAST WEEK, EDMONTON CITY COUNCILLORS unanimously voted in favour of the newest and brightest in transportation needs: the Transportation Master Plan. It's a title that effortlessly connotes images of a James Bond villain standing astride a battleship preparing to launch bus-shaped rockets into the heart of a city, so naturally the TMP has a more citizen-friendly title: *The Way We Move*. This essentially swings the problem in the opposite direction, making the TMP sound like a children's self-help picture book — especially when you consider that City Council is amassing a whole series of similarly titled initiatives. There's an eco-friendly plan called *The Way We Green*, and an economics plan called *The Way We Finance*. I didn't realize that Council was using the same marketing team as PBS' *Reading Rainbow*. It's apt, though, as *The Way We Move* ultimately turns out to be child's play.

The transit plan itself, in its current incarnation, is 119 pages long and available for download on the City of Edmonton website. It's supposedly a masterful, all-encompassing document that will frame the next three decades and prepare us for a brighter tomorrow. The interesting thing, though, is not how many buzzwords or gleaming promises Council has managed to pad the tome out with, though — it's how incredibly insular the TMP is.

There's no mention of St. Albert Transit. There's no mention of Strathcona Transit. None of Sturgeon, or Spruce Grove, or any of the other communities that already have working transit networks running through our city. This is exactly what has infuriated me for so long about the various transportation networks in Edmonton and area: they simply refuse to play nice and acknowledge that the others exist beyond cursory approval nods and vague shrugs. There is *so much* potential for establishing a multi-city transit system, and time and time again, each city barely seems to remember one another's existences. The TMP seems to concur that this mutual ignorance will be continuing for the next decade. As a former St. Albert resident until three months ago, I can offer endless first-hand recollections on how unbelievably frustrating it is to sync up two transit networks seemingly hell-bent on ignoring each other.

If you doubt my claims, check out the site and sneak a peek at page 42, the "Potential LRT Expansion 2040" (which, in an attempt to increase the TMP's number of colourful graphics, is identically reprinted 20 pages later with the heading: "Transportation Master Plan Concept 2040.") The amount of LRT expansions at first seems impressive — finally, there might be a number of non-linear LRT lines that run perpendicular to one another. Nope, hold on a second. The vast majority of the lines are labelled "Potential LRT Extensions."

Meaning that in 30 years, any kind of long-range LRT expansion between adding a block or two at a time to the north and south main-line ends is still only "potential". This includes a couple "potential" lines running out of the city into Strathcona County and St. Albert — apparently the only kind of communication we'll really need to make with satellite cities. Boy, that might be the kind of thing they'd want to upgrade beyond "potential" before releasing a supposed Master Plan.

It's wonderful that Council is spending so much time, energy, and effort in creating something as impressively titled as *The Way We Move*. But it's an overly vague and hopelessly long-term pipe dream — it doesn't offer many concrete plans, it doesn't focus on inter-city expansion, and it doesn't offer current solutions to transit problems Edmontonians are facing every day. Enjoy your Transportation Master Plan, folks. We can understand the sentiment you're saying to us, but a bunch of us will be back here, waiting at the bus depot, hoping that the city will get around to publishing *The Way We Play Well With Others* sometime soon.

DAVID JOHNSTON  
Opinion Editor



## The University administration deals with the H1N1 crisis with their usual methods...

LINDA YAN

### letters TO THE eds

#### The spirit of Co-operation is present in all of us

I would like to thank the *Gateway* for an excellent article on student co-op housing and the Station Pointe Co-op Housing project. I believe that student co-op housing is a viable way of providing students with high-quality, affordable, sustainable housing that builds community.

Students will be allowed to stay in the project after they graduate. At the same time, when non-students leave, students will replace them allowing for continuing affordable student housing. Station Pointe will have 216 units of housing and the majority of those can be for students if they want to become part of the development process. Those who help develop the housing in core groups will go to one or two meetings a month and the occasional four-hour workshop. The process is educational and fun and those in core groups will have first choice of housing as it becomes available. Communitas will be helping

to guide the core groups through the process. The first units of housing at Station Pointe could be available in three years' time.

There was one small correction that needs to be made. Brian Scott from Communitas was cited as saying that the shares student would be expected to pay would be "a few thousand dollars." In fact those shares are generally between \$1,000-2,000, just like a damage deposit and could be less, depending upon the discretion of those future members developing the co-op. This project has great potential, as does student co-op housing and I hope that students will find a way to support it.

ANDY RATHBONE  
PhD Student, Educational Policies

*Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, sent via paper aeroplane or emailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.*

*The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.*

### LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

#### A budding (and building) iconoclast calls out

I am led to believe that the reason for the slow progress of the final approval of the new Students' Union Building is mainly due to the University Board of Governors and to a very ineffective Student Council. If there is going to be something done, let's do it.

Students are continually protesting a diversity of grievances. After three years of planning, are we going to build a new Students' Union Building? Is it time to wake up these senile old men of the Board of Governors over their lack of action on students' wishes and their planned new building?

If we as students require some action by the Board of Governors, must we always wait three years for our planning to be realized? If we want a new Students' Union Building, let's make our demands known. The Board of Governors have played with this project

long enough, and I'm sure that every student joins with me in urging all associated bodies involved in the new Students' Union Building to get off their ... and begin to dig, especially the Board of Governors, whose final approval is required.

Lastly, I would ask what is the crusading *Gateway* doing in pushing for the completion of this project? The Voice of the Students should surely be supporting a cry for decisions.

"APATHY IN GENERAL"  
October 20, 1964

#### Well, we did print your letter, so we see your point

To The Editor:  
If possible, your standards are getting worse.

GORDON E. ARNELL  
October 8, 1954

*From the Archives is a semi-regular feature where the Gateway runs historical letters that we feel are of particular importance — or are just really hilarious.*



# THE PINT IS HALF FULL



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## Recording industries lack harmony



IAN PHILLIPCHUK

The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) is to artists what parents are to Halloween. Sure, they make take you to the streets and walk you to the houses, but dangnabbit, it's my cute-as-buttons M&M costume that's getting candy, not your shivering ass in a snowsuit. The RIAA has a long and storied history of reaching into the plastic pumpkin bags of artists and consumers everywhere and taking a majority of their candy, screwing over everyone in the process.

The RIAA are infamous in nature among music fans, and disliked even by several prominent artists including Trent Reznor of Nine Inch Nails, who famously encouraged his fans to steal Nine Inch Nails' final record *The Slip*. They're behind the States' embarrassing Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) and have even been recently lobbying here in Canada to get Bill C-61, or "DMCA Lite" passed. Both pieces of legislation are hilariously draconian and likely so evil that the paper the bills are printed on probably hisses when it smells human flesh.

Even describing the list of legal actions the RIAA has been involved in seems almost ripped from the Saturday morning cartoons. A selection of the dastardly characters that the RIAA has sued in its quest for justice: single mothers, the homeless,

grandmothers, and dead grandmothers. Possibly the worst thing about the situation, is that the RIAA sees themselves as the heroes of the storyline, even though they're suing people to the tune of \$1.92 million, or just over \$80,000 per track in one case.

If this really were a Saturday morning serial, we'd see Green Lantern busting through the wall of the courthouse, proclaiming, "Not so fast, RIAA! Your days of evil are over!" To which the natural RIAA response would be hand-wringing, deployment of some form of obscuring device, and the promise of swift and brutal vengeance on the heroes "next time."

**Now the RIAA is demanding royalties every time you preview an iTunes song, under the guise of saying it's content for free. Twirling moustaches can't be far off.**

And these baby-eating levels of evil haven't been getting better — in fact, they've been getting worse. They've demanded lethal levels of royalties from Internet radio companies that would have literally killed the medium, shut down a prominent pirate-themed torrent site everyone knows and loves, actually reduced the levels of royalties their artists receive, and seem content to let your average artist earn a piddly five cents per CD sold. However, their latest escapade has taken the cake.

I'm going to assume that you have an MP3 player; and I'm going to posit further that it's an iPod, cause you're fashionably trendy like that. That likely means you're familiar with iTunes, and have possibly even once or twice previewed a song to decide whether or not you want to purchase said song. Now the RIAA is demanding royalties every time you preview a song, under the guise of saying it's content for free. No, seriously. *No, seriously.* This is their latest scheme. Twirling moustaches can't be far off.

If I'm not very veiled in my hand-shakingly intense hatred for the RIAA, then excuse me. I can't abide by an industry that would rather use legal force, outrageous damage claims, bullish intimidation, and fear-mongering tactics than realize that society doesn't need them anymore. Through iTunes and other digital distribution methods such as Amazon's music marketplace, it's now possible for artists to sell directly to fans, completely bypassing the major record labels and the RIAA entirely, and the RIAA doesn't like this.

The world that the RIAA has nightmares about is the same one consumers, artists, and people like me dream about: a world where an artist sells a CD to a fan via the Internet for a \$10 profit, and makes over 200 times what they would under the current scheme. Such a system would leave the RIAA penniless — a bygone relic of an industry that changed beneath them while they were too ignorant, arrogant, and greedy to realize it. And if you ask me, it's just about what they deserve for stealing all of our candy for themselves.

## Celebrity necromancy needs to go toes up



CORY TOKAY

On June 25, 2009, hundreds cried, thousands cheered, and millions shrugged with mild indifference upon hearing news of Michael Jackson's death. The only thing more shocking than his admittedly tragic passing was the speed with which the tell-alls and tributes hit book racks and magazine shelves. Within a week, publications from *Maclean's* to *Vanity Fair* broadcast the sordid details surrounding the last days of a faded '80s icon, and an entire slew of books flew behind them. So here we are, three months later, and the drama has finally passed. Or so you'd think.

On September 25, however, the latest in a series of tell-all books will weasel its way out of publishing houses more slickly than MJ out of a prison term. This latest book concerning the King of Pop is written by one Rabbi Shmuley Boteach and supposedly contains details from a series of tapes recorded while speaking with the late Jackson. Proof once again that *nothing* is sacred in a media-dominated world. While I can understand fans wanting to know more about a pop culture icon, the flood of books is well past the point of going too far, to say

**"For whatever reason, modern culture seems to thrive on questionable financial opportunities surrounding relative strangers. And as long as a market exists where people can go through celebrity gossip faster than Pez-dispensed candies, there will be opportunists ready to scrounge and distribute celebrity gossip."**

nothing of the point of common decency.

Michael Jackson is nothing more than the latest in a series of celebrity corpses being picked clean by media vultures in search of either a quick buck or cheap entertainment. We saw the same thing with Princess Diana and, while I wasn't alive at the time, I hear Elvis' death was received with the same degree of media madness. And when the next forgotten pop culture icon kicks, it'll be the same thing all over again — sorry Backstreet Boys. Is this truly a never-ending cycle?

Exaggerations aside, I really don't think I'm asking a lot here for us to take a page from dogs and just let dead celebrities lie already. But as we all know, it won't happen. For whatever reason — gossip, pop-culture obsession, *schadenfreude*, or just plain escapism, modern culture seems to thrive on questionable financial opportunities surrounding relative strangers. And as long as a market exists where people can go through celebrity gossip faster than Pez-dispensed candies, there will be opportunists ready to scrounge and distribute celebrity gossip.

As annoying as it is to see some-

one cramming yet another tell-all book onto the shelves, they're only half the problem. Yes, just half. And not that it comes as a surprise, but the other half is us, the people who buy into this crap. Celebrities and celebrity gossip may not be going away anytime soon, but there's no reason for it to dominate as much of our lives as it does.

Michael Jackson was turned into a media freak show during the last years of his life, so I suppose it's only fitting it should happen in his death. But imagine for a second if we devoted the time and energy that goes towards harassing celebrities into something more worthwhile. If we spent a fraction of the energy that's gone towards picking apart one person's life on something like medical research, then I doubt we'd ever we'd never have another sick person on the planet.

As for Michael Jackson, he's still dead. Whether you liked MJ or hated him, as a pop culture hero or a child molester, the simple fact is he's dead. Let him go already. Because no amount of scandalous bestsellers are going to soften the pain, or bring the King of Pop moonwalking out of his grave.



# It's time for an old-fashioned battle of the (casual) sexes

Sorry, Uliana — casual sex just doesn't work for those of us who are looking to chase after life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness



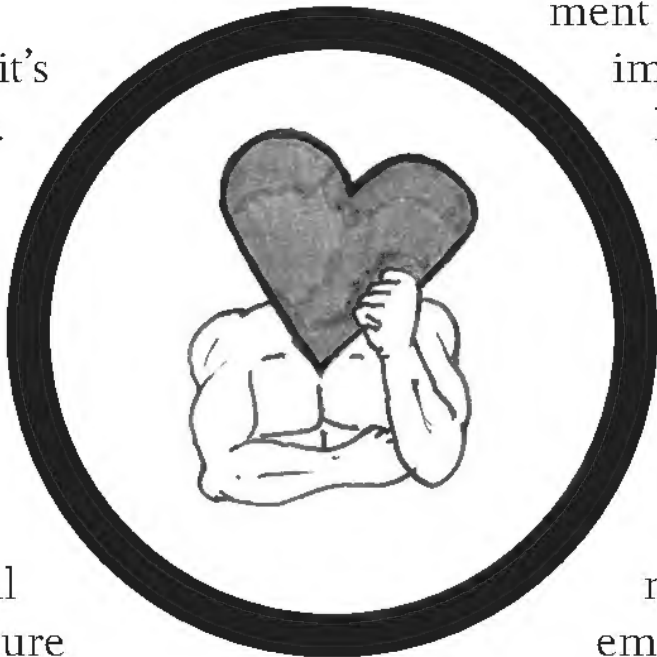
TIM SCHNEIDER

matter how safe you are. Not knowing anything about your partner beyond superficial appearance and their supposed test results can only lead to potential disaster. It only takes one misfire to ruin a life forever. Just ask JFK.

As bad as the health risks are, the emotional stress that this sort of arrangement can put on a person can be immense. While the point of having your own human sex toy is to engage in unemotional lust for selfish pleasure, this goes against our evolved monogamous instincts to form bonds with our mates, and frequently switching between multiple partners can cause emotional damage — particularly in situations where one half develops stronger feelings for the other that go unreciprocated. Having sex with someone who doesn't return the love can leave one feeling hurt and used.

Furthermore, after engaging in many sex-based arrangements of no commitment, an individual may be unable to bring oneself to engage in a committed relationship, feeling overburdened by the increased workload necessary to maintain a happy long term connection; a carryover of the selfish behavior that they exhibited in their self-gratifying sexual lifestyle.

I know that some prefer their flavour-of-the-week arrangements, but they leave you without someone who'll listen to you complain about life, take care of you when you're sick, and buy you flowers when you're having a bad day. It's like a delivered pizza: while casual sex temporarily satisfies a craving, you can't help but feel cheap and greasy when you're done.



point

Sex. There's no doubt it's on our collective minds. Advertising, pop culture, TV — wherever you want to find it, it's there. And where many of us want to find it is in our own beds. No doubt this has led to the prevalence of fuck buddies, or "friends with benefits," or whatever you want to call them. Combine this with our culture of convenience, and bumping uglies with your favourite booty call is as much a commodity as water these days, only the price is nicer — more reminiscent of the barter system than anything. I get mine, you get yours, we're both happy and blissfully uncommitted. Isn't that the way it goes? Maybe, but if you ask me, in these arrangements both parties get the short end of the stick. No pun intended.

The rise of fuck buddies raises a number of concerns both public and private. The obvious concern is the increase in health risks exposed to the typically young populace who engage in these sorts of arrangements. As sexual activity increases through such arrangements, so does the exposure of individuals to STIs and unplanned pregnancies. I know: not you, you're safe, right? Cling to whatever junk statistics that are making you the self-proclaimed exception, but increasing exposure will increase your risk no

What's the matter with fuck buddies, Tim? They're convenient, efficient, and satisfy our hormonal cravings without any issues



ULIANA ROSKINA

available for the night. Being friends with benefits is more convenient than ordering a pizza. It's just as hot and fast, but you don't need to tip.

Another great reason to get yourself a human sex toy is the freedom to experiment — go for a totally different type of person instead of the one you usually date!

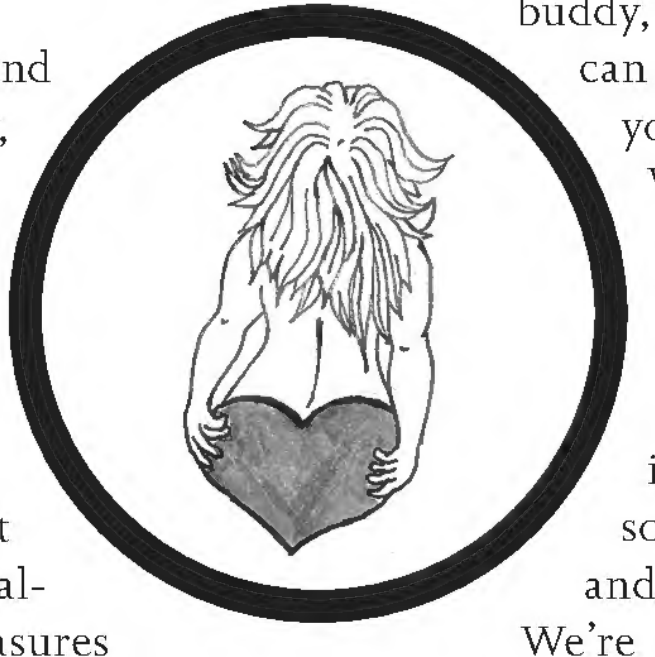
Just remember not to fall for your fuck buddy, because it opens a huge can of worms that both of you might not be ready for. Who needs to reciprocate feelings like I'm just one more tortured heart? Remember what the end goal of this is: not an imaginary relationship somewhere down the road and not a long-term bond.

We're just in pursuit of hot, crazy, sticky, and passionate sex. Being superficial has never been so rewarding.

Finally, fuck buddies help you to stay sane in our crazy and stressful reality. Nowadays, every aspect of our lives is subjected to change, especially when it comes to romantic relationships. When yet another special someone breaks your heart, your booty call can be a rebound and relief from being restless and "erotically charged."

There's no need to continue on suffering from sexless droughts or dating absolute losers just for the sake of sex. Self-gratifying sexual arrangements don't have to be selfish, and they don't have to be a bad thing as long as everyone involved knows what they're in for.

Don't be a prude — have fun and enjoy your stress-free sex until you're ready to commit. And just remember that in the end, we ain't nothing but mammals anyway.



counterpoint

Sex. Who in their right mind doesn't like it? Sex is healthy, fun, and has the power to make us feel truly alive. When you're in the throes of passion, you breathe in and out, and euphoria spreads through your whole body, visiting every single cell, every little vessel. You don't need to be smart, beautiful, talented, or rich to bask in the pleasures of sexual intercourse — you just have to find a partner in crime. One way to pull this off is to get into a serious romantic relationship, where you can feel safe and comfortable. However, those tend to be time-consuming and require superhuman devotion. For those of us who want to live hassle-free or who just haven't found the right person to spend their life with, a fuck buddy is the answer.

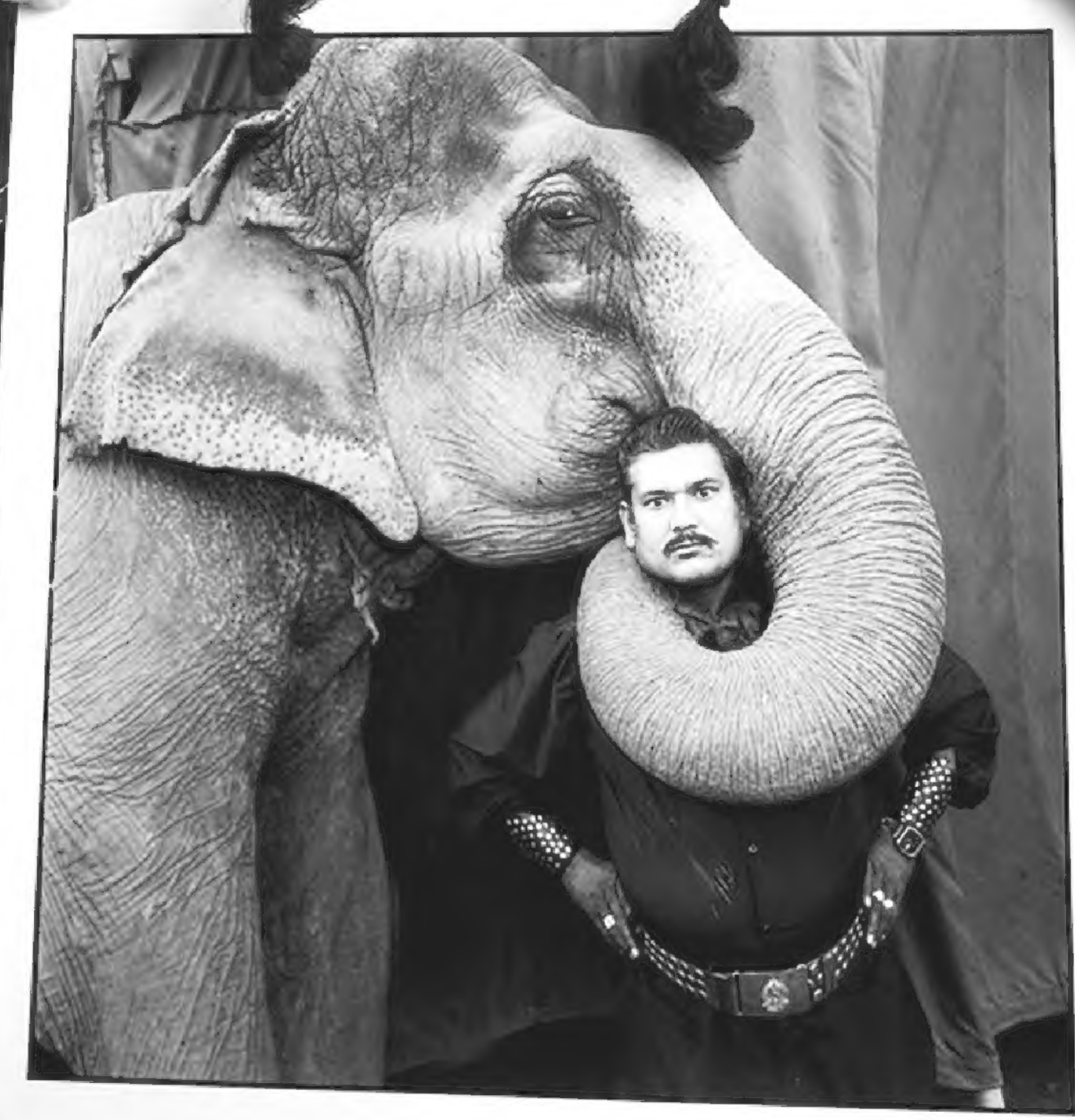
What's great about having someone that you occasionally hook up with is how little you need to know about his or her life. There's no need to find out any details about this person — who cares about annual income? For all you care, your fuck buddy can be a North Korean spy, but as long as he or she pleases you, it's all good.

All you need to know about your cohort is the date and results of the most recent STI test, whether or not this person took a shower within the past 24 hours, and of course, how many condoms are

ILLUSTRATIONS BY ANTONY TA


"I just think it's important to be direct and honest with people about why you're photographing them and what you're doing. After all, you are taking some of their soul."

— Mary Ellen Mark



**GATEWAY PHOTO** soul sucking since 1910.

Meetings every Friday at 4 p.m. in SUB 3-04.



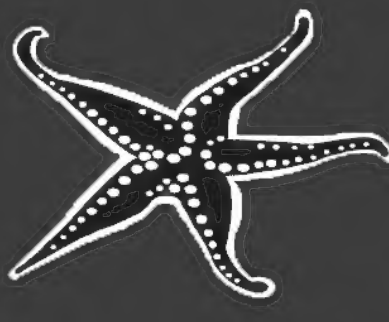
It just feels so weird.

You mean that Mr. Arrow's dead?


Yeah, that... and my pants are filled with starfish.

You and your hobbies.

Here at the Gateway Comic and Illustrations section we are open to every medium of art, even the squishy kinds. Drawing and painting are probably the easiest to clean up after though. Stop by our meetings on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in SUB 3-04 and we'll make some art happen.



**THE GATEWAY:**  
eating rubber tires to the music of  
"The Flight of the Bumblebee" since 1910.



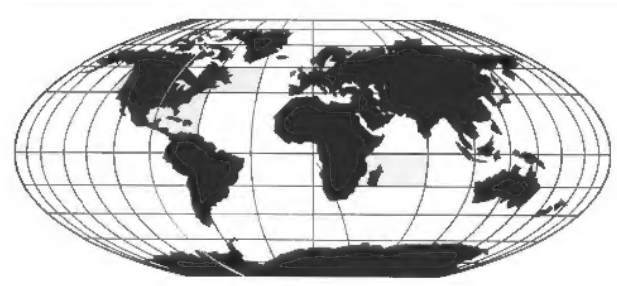


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### VIDEO GAME ANTIQUITIES:

#### HAMLET



Truly, there has never been a sadder moment in the annals of video game history than that in the heart-wrenching scene of the third act of *Illusion of Gaia*, when Hamlet, the pampered pet pig of the female protagonist, willingly roasts himself alive to provide food for a bunch of starving villagers. It's almost Shakespearean in its level of tragedy, and almost Harlequin in its level of maudlin.

We do ask for sacrifices at Gateway Opinion, but usually not quite that literally. If you feel the burning desire to contribute to our roastings, however, pop on up to SUB 3-04 on Tuesdays at 5 p.m. and help us fan the flames of journalistic fervour that have sprung up beneath our trotters. Don't worry. There's plenty for everyone.

## GATEWAY OPINION

providing an inexpensive source of LARD SINCE 1910

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### TD Insurance Meloche Monnex Leadership Scholarship \$1000

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- 3) For the Alumni Advantage Scholarship show proof of high academic achievement (GPA of 3.5 or 80% or higher); For the TD Insurance Meloche Monnex Scholarship show proof of satisfactory academic achievement (GPA of 2.0 or 50% or higher);
- 4) Demonstrate involvement in campus and/or community service and volunteerism; and
- 5) Be the recipient of no other major scholarships or awards (major awards are valued at \$5000 or higher) in the current academic year.



To apply for these scholarships, please pick up your application form at the reception desk at the Office of Alumni Affairs (Main Floor Enterprise Square, 10230 Jasper Ave) or go online to [www.ualberta.ca/alumni/scholarships](http://www.ualberta.ca/alumni/scholarships)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS  
OCTOBER 30, 2009.**

# How to succeed in harsh, brutal dictatorship without really trying



BRUCE  
CINNAMON

Dictatorship is a serious topic. Which is why I find it so refreshingly comical to discuss Hugo Chávez. Here is a dictator in the most liberal sense of the term. Sure, he has nearly unopposed control over his country and some megalomaniacal tendencies, but his people seem generally happy with their Presidenté. Statistics prove that citizen happiness has increased since his assumption of power. Of course, these statistics are published by his government, but that's beside the point.

The point is that there's something much more gentle about Latin American dictators when compared to their African, Asian, and European counterparts. Perhaps the paradise-like nature of their countries gives them kinder dispositions, or their hilariously broken English just makes them seem more bumbling and less threatening to a xenophobic North America.

Whatever the case, Hugo Chávez has shown that it isn't that difficult to become a Latin American dictator. All that it really requires are some humble roots (though this is a prerequisite for anyone seeking to lead a nation) and some great rhetorical skills. But just in case you haven't got El Presidenté's luck, here's a simple guide to get yourself started.

Step One: *Attempt a military coup that fails, then get democratically elected.* This genius move lets you promise a bright new future for your country without having to actually deliver! When your revolution fails to do any harm, and you've won the hearts of the nation's poor, the government will be forced to release you eventually, if only to stop the rioting. Then, when you're elected, you'll retain your underdog, outsider status while not actually violating any laws. To conservatives, while not exactly an ideal leader, you have at least cooled off from the wild and revolutionary days of your youth. To radicals, it's a victory for their favorite freedom fighter — you delivered your promise of a glorious change to the country's direction even though you continue to support the corrupt establishment.

Step Two: *Change something trivial, like the name of your currency.* In case the citizens begin to realize that not much has actually changed (except for the increase of police patrols), you need something that you can point to as clear evidence of your administration's progress. So why not change the name of your currency from bolivar to bolivar fuerte? This distracts the people, and has the added bonus of giving you more opportunities to compare yourself to a national icon! Everyone wins!

Step Three: *Demonize the largest purchaser of your chief export.* Everyone knows the Americans are parasites on the backs of your good, working people, regardless of the fact that they support the majority

of your economy. Blame them for everything and you can't go wrong. This also allows you to accuse anyone who doesn't support you of being in their pocket and an enemy of the people.

Step Four: *Have your own TV show.* It's generally known that television personalities have far more power than politicians (Can you argue that Stephen Harper could ever seriously compete with, say, Oprah? Also, consider the fact that many people know and care more about their TV icons than their leaders. Although this can bring their attention to your flaws (Kanye — Boo! Joe Wilson — who?), it's more likely to inspire their respect and awe. And if they're watching *Aló Presidenté* every Sunday, they don't have time to watch your critics on other shows. Oh wait, you nationalized the TV stations. Never mind.

Step Five: *Be folksy.* The benefits of driving a tractor or milking a cow on national television cannot be exaggerated. This proves to the nation that you take their agrarian jobs very seriously. Simply put, if you are willing to help a cow birth her young or till a field while discussing why your people should attack Colombia, then you're truly at the top of your game.

I salute you Hugo Chávez. You have wormed your way into the hearts of the Venezuelan people, re-written the constitution to strengthen your hold on the nation, and professed your eternal love and devotion for Fidel Castro. And you've done it all with such wonderful style. Such wonderful, comical, imitable style.

### THE BURLAP SACK

Change, I find, is usually a good thing. From what I've seen at the newly remodelled Room at the Top, I consider it to be a great improvement. Well, for the most part. Sadly, there comes a point when the restaurant's evolution mutated in a less-than-positive direction. I'm speaking specifically of the changes made to the fries over the past week. Just as they've expanded their name to an unnecessarily length, they've gone ahead and repeated this process with the cut of their fries. You are not what I thought you were, RATT fries — once slender and crisp, the classic shoestring fries have been forced out in favour of the thick-cut variety. Sure, these new treats may hold salt better, but one must realize that half the taste is in the texture. This is Fries 101 — surely they know this by now.

When the kitchen overcooked the old fries, I didn't have much to complain about. The thin-cut style lent itself to that much better; now, with the new style, I wonder why I should bother eating something that tastes no better than if they left the potato uncooked.

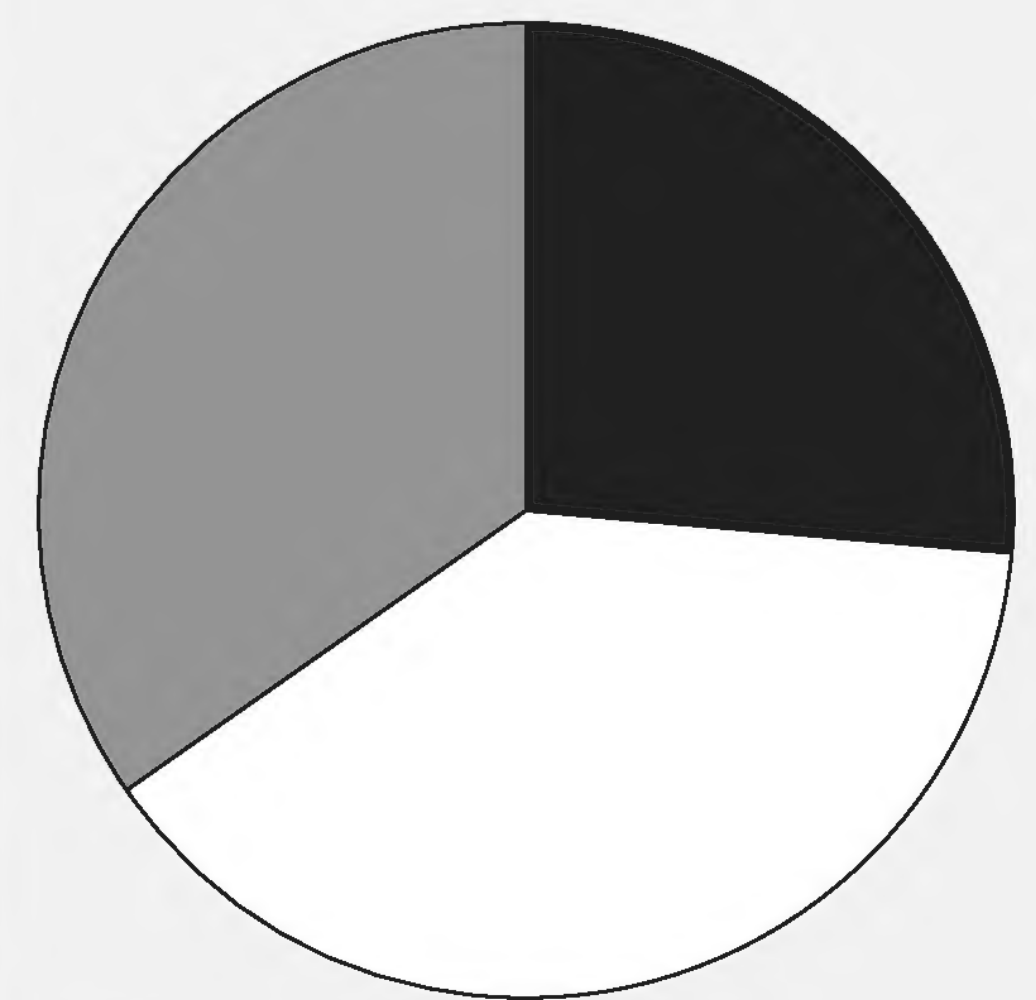
Change has been good for RATT so far, and I'd be the first to say that the old menu had some flaws. But it's too soon to see if what they now have is merely a step in the wrong direction. Bring back the old fries, or keep searching for better alternatives. Throw out these new potato atrocities, guys. Toss them back into the Burlap Sack you found them in. Frankly, if I had to choose, I'd probably eat the sack before I downed the new fries anytime soon.

LANCE MUDRYK

*The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.*

## readerpoll

"Do you think \$14.8 million of federal government funding for the South Campus GO Centre was a smart investment?"




- Yes (35%)
- No (39%)
- How many basketballs will that buy? (26%)

TOTAL RESPONSES: 49

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:  
"Which vice has the recession had the least effect on your purchasing thereof?"

vote online at  
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For more details, visit [www.dontbeatosser.com](http://www.dontbeatosser.com). Contest ends October 19, 2009. Must be 18 years of age or older to enter. Prize value varies based on travel, ski lift and hotel costs. Bottle depot receipt must be presented to claim prize. Open only to registered students at post-secondary institutions in Alberta. Offer is subject to change without notice, and may not be combined with any other promotion. Certain restrictions apply.



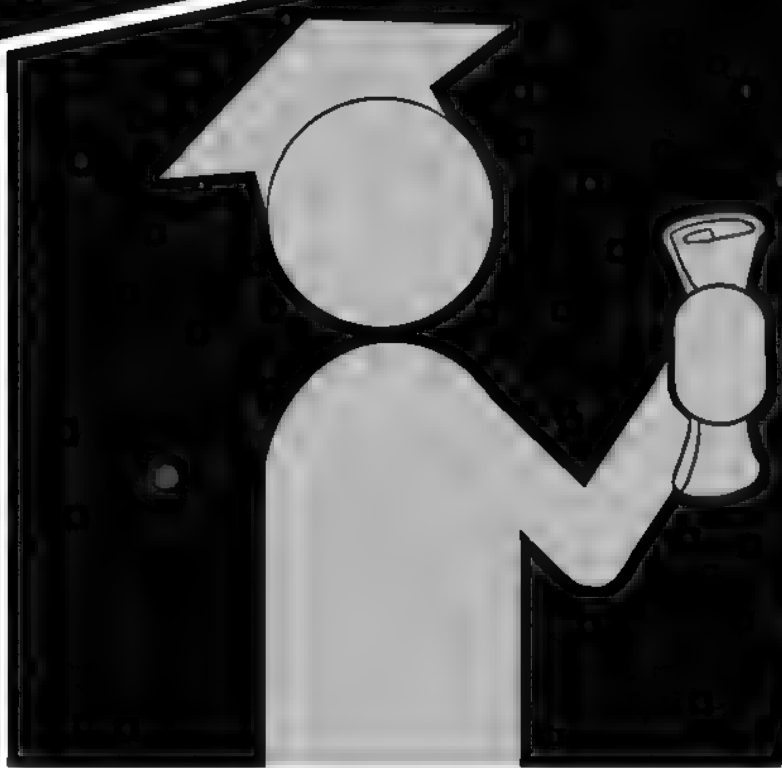


# VOLUNTEER

STUDENT  
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Gateway

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CAREER SERIES

**A&E TUESDAYS AT 4**  
**OPINION TUESDAYS AT 5**  
**ARTISTS WEDNESDAYS AT 5:30**  
**SPORTS THURSDAYS AT 4**  
**NEWS FRIDAYS AT 3**  
**PHOTO FRIDAYS AT 4**





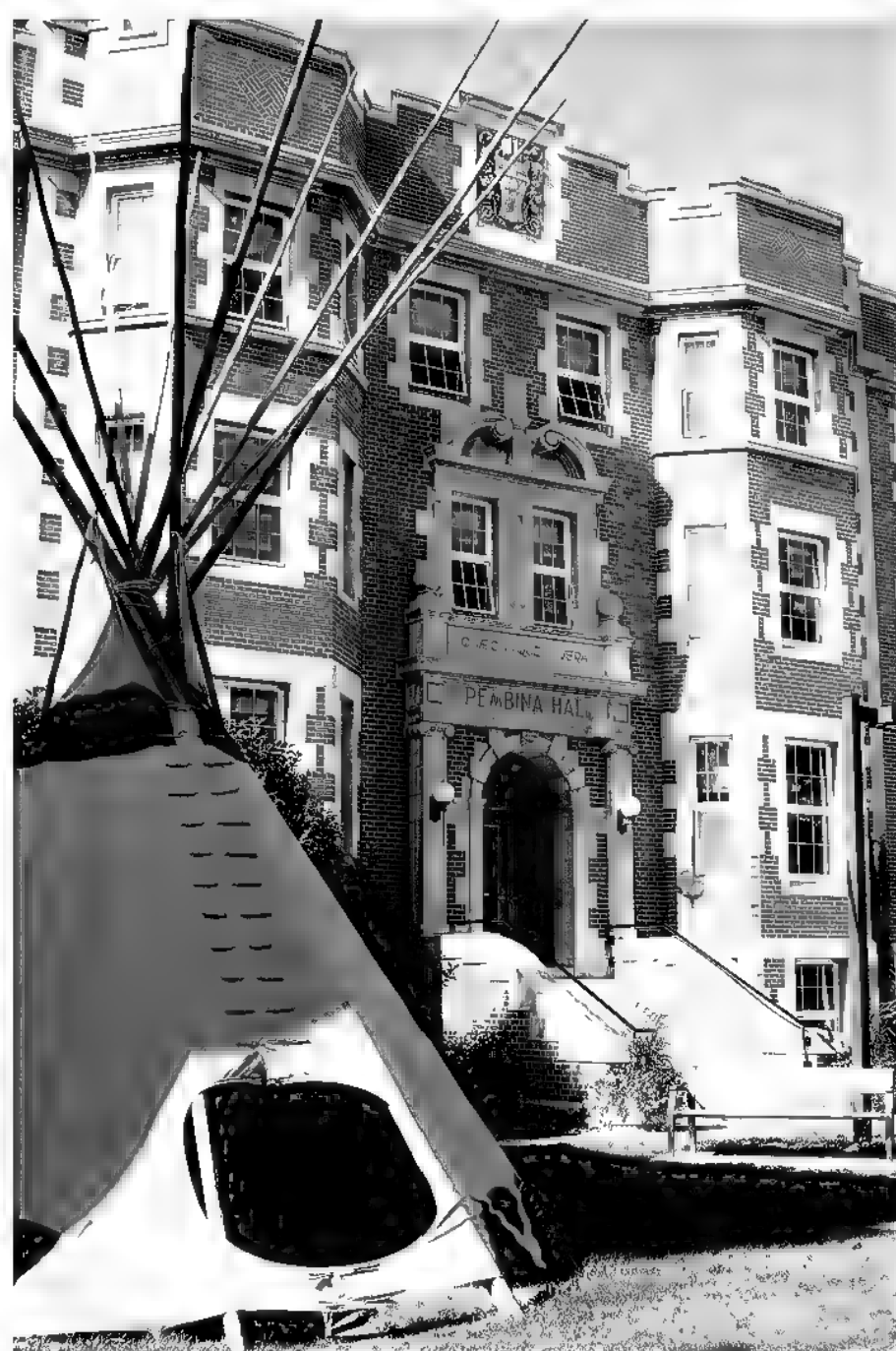
# EXPLORING THE U of A

Way back in the eighth grade, when Edmonton Public School teachers had gone on strike, I decided to attend the University of Alberta's Open House. Wide-eyed and curious about the institution that I hoped to one day attend, I took it upon myself to try and explore as much of the University grounds as possible. What initially sparked my interest was delving through the engineers' booths, and hearing people constantly mention a door in the Arts building that apparently leads nowhere — naturally, I wondered, "where is it?" The joke went over my head, but that's where I decided to begin my excursion. Now, in my three years at the U of A, I've searched for plenty other doors, and have found a few. However, this past year, I decided to expand my search.

**Written and photographed  
by Robert Frigon**

**A**fter 100 years of history, many hidden spots have been created, and the administration's plan for the U of A has changed quite drastically. Originally based on a quad system, with the main quad being empty from north to south, new elements have been added and things are continuously being altered. To find the original map, just take the stairs at Rutherford North and between the second and third floor, and you can see it for yourself. The peculiar thing about the map's location is that it's housed in a building that was never to exist on that plan.

Let's start with a few facts: the U of A commenced in 1908, and has now grown to include six campuses in three cities, providing lectures to 37,000 students in 18 faculties. The buildings that house the abundance of classes and students define the character of the University. All of these structures survived the Great Depression, the largest increase in student enrollment (and, conversely, the largest decrease), two world wars, and countless other character-defining moments over the years. To truly know the University, you must know that past that created it.



## TOP-SIX BUILDINGS ESTABLISHED BETWEEN 1908-1929

### 6 Triffo Hall

This gem was built in 1915 as the second lab on campus (the South Lab) and is also a designated Heritage site, which started renovations in 2006 by a large donation from Ron and Dorothy Triffo. In 2008, it was renovated to house the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research, and the offices of the Graduate Students' Association and Postdoctoral Fellows Association. Triffo has also won many awards for its environmentally friendly renovations, including a Gold L.E.D. standing for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, as well as an award for its use and re-use of sustainable steel in its renovation.

### 5 St. Joseph's College

St. Joe's was built in 1926 and was funded by the Catholic Church and the Government of Alberta. With a beautiful church inside, accentuated by picturesque stained-glass windows, this building is one of my favourites on campus. It currently houses the boys' residence of St. Joe's College, its most famous alumnus being former Canadian Prime Minister (and *Gateway* Editor-in-Chief) Joe Clark. St. Joe's backyard is the most central part of North Campus. As quoted on the U of A map pages, the school also housed the Faculty of Education and some of its classrooms. The text also offers a hint of the faculty's rowdier history: "A cafeteria called Little Tuck was

especially popular with that era's boisterous education students, so much so that the Pope wrote a letter demanding that the 'cabaret' in the basement of St. Joseph's must cease."

### 4 Old St. Stephen's College

Old St. Stephen's (not to be confused with St. Stephen's College, which is right beside it) in its original location was built on Campus in 1910 and served as the Protestant Methodists church's campus. Though the college has moved out and is now home to Alberta Community Development, it's still warmly known as Old St. Stephen's College to this day. It also housed many male students throughout its years, with its most famous being former Premier William Aberhart.

### 3 Ring Houses

There are four ring houses in total — the first being the home of Dr. Marshall Tory. His was built in 1912 and housed all University Presidents until 1959. The other three, built shortly after, were used for campus housing. These little tidbits of days gone by with their wide porches and down-home feel are a wonderful oasis from the skyscrapers of today's modern campus.

### 2 Pembina Hall

Prior to the construction of Pembina Hall in 1914, buildings on campus were made of mason base. Pembina, however, was a huge leap forward, as it was built with steel and concrete frame — though it was to have a masonry front. The rock originally slated to cover the building was from Pembina River, but even though it didn't stack up, the name still stuck. This building is stocked full of history, from its use as a women's residence in 1919, to becoming a hospital during a flu epidemic, to its ghost stories, to housing a propeller from a WWII plane, as well as the tipi on its front lawn. Pembina was condemned to demolition in 1974 because of its aging foundation, and prime location for other projects; luckily, this piece of history was saved in 1975 from the bulldozer's wrath and now houses the School of Native Studies.

### 1 Athabasca Hall/Assiniboia Hall

Athabasca Hall was the first official home to the U of A in 1911. Though not the oldest building on campus, it was given the Award of Honour for Heritage Preservation in 1979. The lobby and the lounge are preserved in their original style, providing a fantastic perspective of U of A life in the early 20th century. Assiniboia Hall, meanwhile, was built only a year later in 1912 and was originally the male dorm on campus until 1970. Now with its modern face-lift inside, it's the home to a handful of campus departments.



**T**hough the locales above may be pretty on the outside, some may prove more difficult to access than others. However, the following buildings are all publicly accessible, at least if you're willing to do a bit of scouting. Each was constructed after the initial building phase of the University, many due to the gradual expansion of the U of A's land. Time to put on those sneakers and take a walk!

## TOP-FIVE PLACES ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC

### 5 Tory building, 15th floor

The elevator in Tory seemingly only goes to the 14th floor — but there's actually one more after that. This lost level is filled with one drafty hallway, a few offices, and a spiral staircase to the roof of one of the best views of downtown Edmonton and the River Valley. Though you can climb the staircase, however, the hatch to the roof is locked.

### 4 Erin Richard Memorial

Otherwise known as Room 504 in the General Service Building, this is the smallest library on campus, located in the Rural Economics Departments library. Though it's small in stature, it contributes to the U of A's rank as 13th in the world for research and, on top of that, adds to our total of 7 million volumes of information.

### 3 Rutherford House

This is an original house on campus, built in 1911 for Alberta's first Premier and U of A founder, Alexander Rutherford. He next served as Chancellor to the U of A from 1927 until his death in 1947.

After its use during Rutherford's term as Premier, it was rarely occupied until it was leased to the Delta Upsilon Fraternity from 1940–68 as a residence. It's the oldest building on campus, narrowly beating out Athabasca Hall by a few months. Nowadays, it houses the most expensive eatery on campus: the Arbour restaurant.

### 2 Oriental garden

Situated on top of the Business building is an oriental garden with plants, pagodas, as well as a sand garden. It's an unconfirmed fact that the only "public" access is through the Dean of Business's office; luckily, a maintenance person showed me up there through a service

stairwell. You can view this beautiful spot from the Tory Building's south-side windows (while there, you can also check out the views of the River Valley to the north).

### 1 Bruce Peel Library

As you descend the stairs of Rutherford South, you'll find a washroom door, as well as what seems like just another service entrance with big gold lettering beside it — this is actually the Bruce Peel Library. Behind this seemingly mundane door lies one of the greatest resources at the U of A.

This cool spot (literally — the air is humidity- and heat-controlled here) is a bejewelled room with solid wood cabinets and wood inlay, presenting beauty to the eye of its visitors. After descending through this door, you'll notice the double-high ceiling with spiral staircase. This little big library seems like something out of the history books.



## TOP-THREE TOP-SECRET LOCATIONS

**S**ome doors can only be opened with a very well-protected pass — one that even this nosy writer couldn't manage to obtain. With that in mind, I've compiled the top-three secret places, based solely on a combination of folklore and word of mouth.

### 3 The mysterious door that leads nowhere in Biological Sciences Building

This legend, myth or fact, has been around since the construction of the Biological Sciences Building in 1966. This was the last building to be constructed by Alberta Department of Public Works and with three distinct floor plans, even current-day historians have not yet been able to confirm or deny this secret place.

### 2 Underground tunnels

These tunnels that run from Lister to SUB to Pembina hall are fact. Though the reason for their closure has remained a tight-lipped secret, many theories have emerged, from the unnerving reports of sexual assaults, to rumours of a partial cave-in that killed six. Access to the tunnels is secure, though, so don't

go looking — campus security will not appreciate your nosiness.

### 1 Bruce Peel Stacks

These stacks are the most tightly guarded location on campus, as I was told by the librarian behind the desk. There's a lot more behind these doors than books — all sorts of rich artifacts can be found. Though access is easy to the Bruce Peel Library itself, the stacks are a completely different story. No pictures have ever been taken, nor is there a complete list to the public of all the resources found behind those doors. Beyond collections of century-old books, posters, and apparel, it's home to several first-edition prints of a number of classic texts, including Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. What other mysteries it holds remains a secret to most on campus — your best bet is either become a librarian, a security guard, or a U of A historian with a lot of clout.



TOP-FIVE BUILDINGS THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT, BUT PROBABLY DON'T

**5 Corbett Hall**  
The most southerly building on North Campus' original area, construction started in 1928 and it opened on January 3, 1930. Corbett Hall is an E-shaped building of early renaissance architecture. W.W. Butchard was the chief draftsman of this building from the Department of Public Works. This location was renamed after Edward (Ned) Corbett, a director from 1928–37 for the Faculty of Extensions. Corbett was influential in the creating of the U of A's original radio station, CKUA. The Royal Canadian Air Force set up a instructional facility in the Hall from 1941–45.

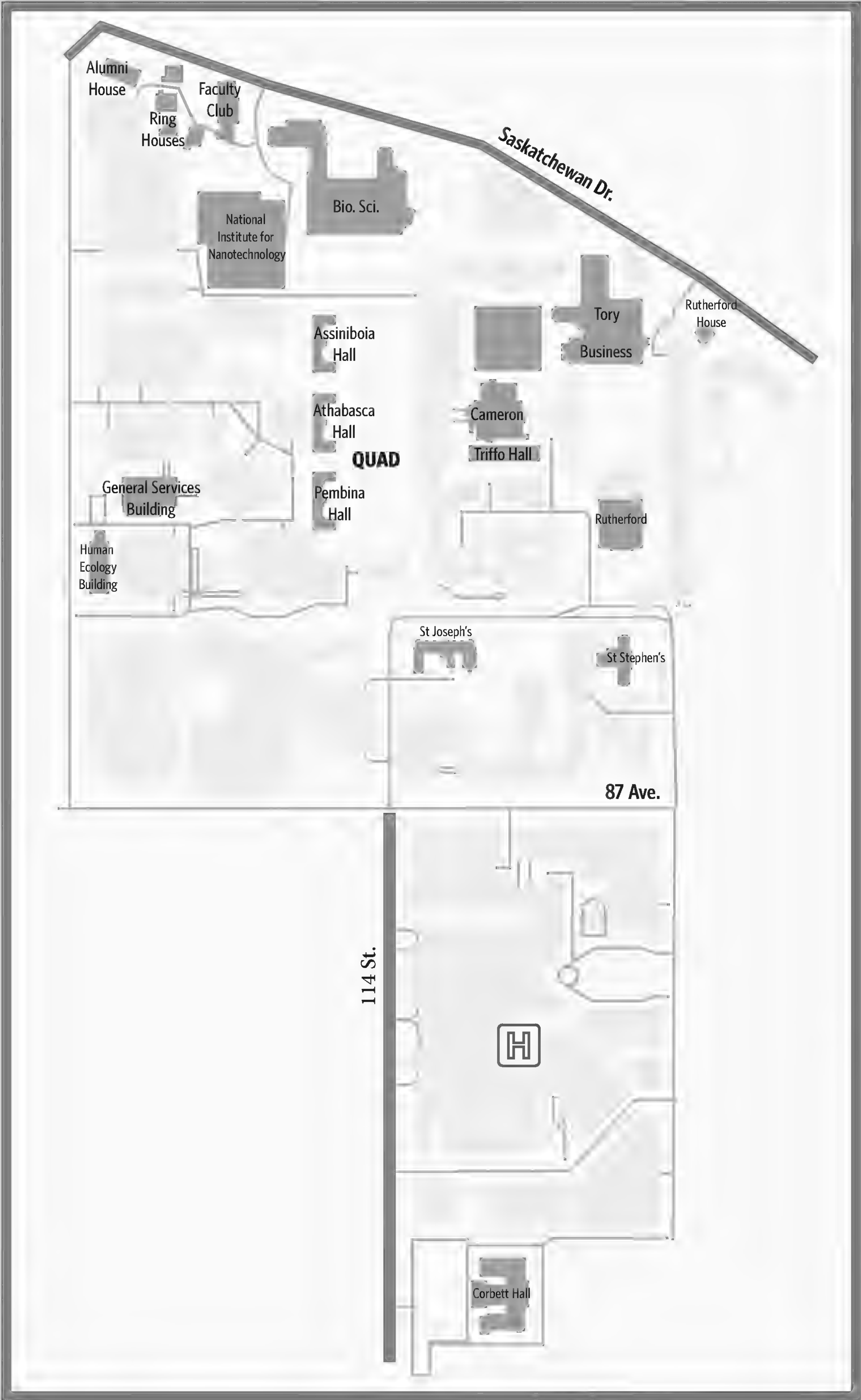
**4 Human Ecology Building**  
HEB is home to some of the most fascinating fabrics on campus. From the ancient Asian garments in the entrance halls museum to fire-retardant suits in the basement, there's a lot more to see in this building than its mundane

exterior would imply. Originally, it served as the home of Home Economics before the faculties and buildings name change in the mid 1980s. HEB opened in 1965 with the top floors being housed by the Department of Home Economics and the basement devoted to Textiles.

**3 Faculty Club**  
The Faculty Club, like its neighbours, is housed on University property, but that's where the similarities end. The Club is not funded by our tuition, but instead is supported by its members: the faculty. This building was opened in 1964, boasting of great views of the river valley and downtown. With a growing university comes a growing faculty, and to keep up with this increase, there have been quite a few additions, the latest being in 1991. This is where all your professors hang out, network, and grab a bite to eat at the second-most expensive restaurant on campus.

**2 Alumni House**  
This was the home for many past U of A Presidents after the first Ring Road House was deemed sub-standard for a U of A President, but you won't find President Samarasekera here. Rather, this building is run by the Alumni Association to host meetings, events, and conferences.

**1 National Institute for Nanotechnology**  
This building is a joint research project between the U of A, National Research Council, and Government of Alberta. It cost \$52.2 million when it was built, and boasts a room with a separate foundation from the rest of the building to minimize vibration. As well, it has a glass covering that's used to diffuse light coming into the room to protect miniature robotics. This space is open to anyone to use after going through a simple training course and obtaining a permit for their project — so get designing.



**T**hough our library isn't 1,000 years old with a tunnel below it filled with snakes and treasure, you don't have to be a professor, treasure hunter, or even Indiana Jones to be able to explore the U of A's nooks and crannies — you just have to have a desire to go find your own hidden secrets. I've learned a lot from researching this article from our oldest building, to our staff whose knowledge and pride in the U of A is astonishing. I take great pride in the University and the history behind it — where we came from and are now building, to one day being that history.

With many new locations being built, our history is ever changing and growing. Using these 19 locations as inspiration, I hope all of you will find at least one area that you didn't know previously existed.

If you have a few memories of your own, feel free to share them on our website at [thegatewayonline.ca](http://thegatewayonline.ca).



## social intercourse

### Campus Chaos

With Lil' Jon, Bif Naked, Hinder, Rec Theory, State of Shock, Social Code, Age of Daze, Tupelo Honey, My Sister Ocean, Krome, Armchair Cynics, and Soul Side In

Friday, September 25 at 5:30 p.m.  
Northlands Agricom (7515-118 Ave.)  
\$44.50 at ticketmaster.ca

Earlier this year, the University of Alberta introduced an emergency notification system that would alert students via email or text message in the event of chaos on campus. For example, if Bif Naked were to take her tango shoes and start ripping around in a tank in Quad, you'd get a text message. Or, if Lil' Jon were to get a lil' too crunk and crsorderly in RATT after having his title as Reigning King of Crunk challenged, you'd get a text message. And if 10 other bands were to show up and let loose in a similar fashion — you better believe you'd get a text message. But since all of this will actually be going down at the Northlands Agricom this Friday, consider this your official warning.

### Motörhead

With Reverend Horton Heat and Nashville Pussy  
Tuesday, September 29 at 8 p.m.  
Edmonton Event Centre  
(8882-170 St.)  
\$45 at Ticketmaster

Every day, famous Motörhead frontman Lemmy Kilmister gets out of bed and opens his bedroom window, only to see the freshly risen sun drop suddenly below the horizon, turning the day grey. He waters the brand new potted daisy he bought the previous day, which immediately wilts into a sad, brown lump. He feeds his blind terrier, which barks happily at the attention and wags its tail. And finally he walks into his washroom, looks in the mirror, sighs, and proceeds to once again start cleaning up the broken glass off the counter.

Yes, in case you haven't ever read anything about Motörhead anywhere, ever, Lemmy is ugly. He routinely makes lists of the ugliest rockers, along with Chad Kroeger, Ric Ocasek of the Cars, and Shane McGowan of the Pogues. Despite having faces that mothers would struggle valiantly to love, these men all have inexplicable success with the ladies, simply because they stand on stage yelling into a blunt metal object, strumming some strings attached to a piece of wood. The greatest minds of our time can't seem to solve this boggling mystery (hell, even Stephen Hawking said, and I quote: "that's fucked up") but it's clear that nature's cruel law knows no bounds.

### The Girl From Monaco

Directed by Anne Fontaine  
Starring Fabrice Luchini, Roschdy Zem, and Louise Bourgoin  
Princess Theatre (1033/-82 Avenue)  
Opens Friday, September 25

There's no better description for a movie — any movie — than the one given on Yahoo Movies for *The Girl From Monaco*. "A brilliant and neurotic attorney goes to Monaco to defend a famous criminal. But, instead of focusing on the case, he falls for a beautiful she-devil, who turns him into a complete wreck. Hopefully, his zealous bodyguard will step in and put everything back in order. Or will he?" Or will he? That sounds like some tricky foreshadowing right there. I wonder if that bodyguard will do something lascivious or naughty? The film serves as a cautionary warning to all students taking the bar that they must never speak to the women of Satan's flock. In any case, it was nominated for two César awards in France, a country where all films are legally mandated to have a steamy love triangle.

JOHN KMECH AND SARAH STEAD  
Sittin' in a tree



SUPPLIED: NIGEL CRANE

# Smart touring sees return of Gaslight Anthem

## musicpreview

### Gaslight Anthem

With *Murder by Death*, Frank Turner, and *The Loved Ones*  
Saturday, September 26 at 7 p.m.  
Edmonton Event Centre  
(8882-170 St.)  
\$22 at ticketmaster.ca

BEN SIR  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

I was surprised to hear The Gaslight Anthem was returning to play our city. Numerous bands opt to skip the geography and populace that reside between the major markets of Vancouver and Toronto, but this New Jersey quartet are returning for their second Edmonton show in six months.

A conversation with bassist Alex Levine revealed this to be the result of smart tour routing, (cutting South of Winnipeg and across the Midwestern states to arrive in Southern Ontario without braving the long drive across the Canadian Shield) and sound advice from some punk rock peers.

"Our first show in Canada was with Rise Against, who said their bread and butter was touring some markets in the States and Canada," the bassist explains.

In conjunction with the encouragement, there's one factor that Levine failed to acknowledge: The Gaslight Anthem's skyrocketing popularity.

One year ago, the band's name was mostly limited to the lips of American punk fans who caught them playing opening act for other bands, and a growing media buzz for the approaching release of their new album. Aptly titled, *The '59 Sound* became one of the most critically acclaimed records of 2008, and shot the band from opening act to headliner.

"Before *The '59 Sound*, we heard horror

stories about touring Canada," Levine recalls, "when you play to 10 people, drive 18 hours to the next show, there's nobody there, and you lose a bunch of money."

However, with no prior stops in Edmonton, the word of mouth and media buzz surrounding their current record propelled them to sell out The Starlite Room this past April. Attendance wasn't the only misconception Levine held about our country, and particularly, the Shelbyvillian city that lies three hours south.

**"I haven't been home for longer than six weeks in three years. So many bands bitch, moan, and complain that they're not as big as they feel they should be. Then they only hit the road for two or three weeks of the year."**

ALEX LEVINE  
BASSIST, THE GASLIGHT ANTHEM

He hesitantly confessed that in younger years he "was a huge wrestling and Bret Hart fan. I kind of expected a monument in Calgary."

Childhood dissappointments aside, Levine quickly explains that after their first Canadian trek, any lingering reluctance about touring the Great White North was a distant apprehension.

"We got to play so many cool theatres and rooms in Canada that when the option came to return, we were all for it."

This time, they'll be performing at the Edmonton Event Centre, motoring through the final legs of what has been a long touring cycle.

"I haven't been home for longer than six weeks in three years," Levine states before asserting that it's a price the band gladly pays

for their success. "So many bands bitch, moan, and complain that they're not as big as they feel they should be. Then they only hit the road for two or three weeks of the year." His reflection was disarming.

Having previously sampled The Gaslight Anthem, I could recognize the rarity of an album such as *The '59 Sound* in which (almost) every word is learned. However, there was a sliver of me that pondered the authenticity of a band whose musical stylings and lyrical imagery so heavily rely on a type of Americana thought dead. Depictions of 1950s cars, ferris wheels, and their blue-jeans-and-white-t-shirts aura caused me to casually wonder what reality or age these Jersey boys lived in.

After speaking with Levine, I had no lingering doubts about their sincerity, including the ferris wheels. I urged him to spend his day off between Vancouver and Edmonton appreciating the Rockies as the seasons change. I always found this activity purest at the cliff-jumping wet dream of Jasper's Horseshoe Lake. Following this name drop, the bassist pauses.

"That's so weird," he begins. "I grew up next to a Horseshoe Lake in New Jersey, right where they had the carnival every year."

Growing up next to the State Carnival — I guess these guys really did grow up in *The Sandlot*.

Unfortunately, we can't count on seeing the band a short six months from now. As their arduous tour support of *The '59 Sound* wraps up, the guys can finally look forward to a couple of months off. After he "finds a place to live," Levine, along with singer Brian Fallon, drummer Benny Horowitz, and guitarist Alex Rosamilia plan to "get in studio and make the next record."

"Well, I guess we gotta write it first," he adds. Even their rest sounds busy.

It may be slightly longer than a half year from now, but with new musical nostalgia on the way from The Gaslight Anthem, it can't be too long until their Chuck Taylors are pounding our increasingly familiar pavement.



# Heather Taylor returns to E-Town for EIFF

## filmpreview

### The films of Heather Taylor

At the Edmonton International Film Festival

*The Last Thakur* (September 27 at 12:15 p.m.)

*Wild West Dream* (September 27 at 3 p.m.)

Empire City Centre (10200-102 Ave.)

AGNIESZKA KUCHARSKA  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

When the Edmonton International Film Festival begins, Heather Taylor will be returning to her hometown for the screening of her two latest films: *Wild West Dream* and *The Last Thakur*.

"I was so excited," Taylor exclaims, "because it's the first time that any films that I've made have been shown in Edmonton [...]. When I got the first one in, I was like 'that's really amazing' and then when I got two in, I just thought, 'I'll never have this chance to go and see two of my films in the same place.'"

The short documentary *Wild West Dream* is the unusual story of an Irish cowboy that actively participates in rodeo competitions in Europe, and dreams of competing in North America one day. As someone who grew up in Edmonton where rodeo culture has a strong presence, Taylor was still tickled at finding a European cowboy.

"[It's] just so fascinating that someone in a culture so removed from this cowboy culture would be so into it — so much so that he's now competing in rodeos."

The story of this man trying to live his dream has inspired Taylor in extending

this documentary.

"We want to bring him to Edmonton, to Alberta, and have him go the cowboy trail and work with cowboys and ranchers, and experience the life [and] see what he thinks, see if this is really the life he wants."

Her other film, *The Last Thakur*, a film collaboration between the U.K. and Bangladesh, unfolds the tale of a man named Kala, who arrives in Doulthapur, and gets caught in the middle of a quarrelling community. Set in Bangladesh, with Bengali as the spoken language, the film is "the first Bengali western that's ever been made," she says.

"I do believe that being from Alberta and having [known] that influence [of western culture] and working in the community within film [...] really helped me in making it feel authentic," says Taylor, who helped write the film's script.

"What was interesting is that they translated it to Bengali and then they translated it back into English subtitles. So the subtitles are not the lines I've written, [they] aren't necessary there or completely there."

But despite this being a strange collaboration, Taylor says that the pull of exploring other cultures in unusual settings is, and continues to be, a huge draw for her.

"I love making films in other places, set in other places," she says.

Taylor also has a few projects planned for the future that she'll be focussing on once she finishes showing her films at the EIFF.

"[My next project is] a monster film. It's about this monster coming back to a small town, and this father and son have to stop it from killing the town.



It's a shape-shifter and so only they know who it is. But what's really cool is that, 'well yeah, okay, it sounds like a monster movie' but [what's different is that] it's set in the Midwest during the Depression. So it's that time of desperation," she describes.

Taylor goes on explaining that her grandma lived through the depression and told her about the difficulty of life during that time. For Taylor, this film shares her familiarity with the prairie

ethos. She has also been discussing with her producer about having the movie set in Saskatchewan, because she wants to bring this new project to her home country.

"I think that a lot of Albertan artists and creators do a lot of work inside of Canada, but it's never seen outside of Canada," Taylor says. "I would love to have something that can be seen here, something that actually shows off Alberta [art]."

## bluessmyth



## albumreview

### Bluessmyth

*Sola Gratia*

Universal

SEAN STEELS  
Senior News Editor

Life is about the pleasant juxtaposition of delights, like ice cream and hot fudge, or in the case of Bluesmyth's latest album, *Sola Gratia*, the fire of heavy metal rock with praise and worship.

But unlike many other overtly Christian rock offerings, *Sola Gratia* — latin for 'grace alone' — benefits from mixing the devil's riffs with the lord's praise. From the album's beginning, the song "Down on my Luck" pumps with thick, fuzzy guitar riffs and cuts tightly over the remaining bass and drums. The group's three-piece composition gives them a rough sound that pushes the disc's slick production to a hair-raising crescendo.

However, all's not well in the house of God. *Sola Gratia* opens with a roar but quickly calms to a mew. The energy falls by the fourth track, "Rosemary's Blues," as Bluesmyth's wall of energy fizzles into a plodding rumination on drug use.

The album's trajectory continues moving down a path of progressively less complex, less vibrant, and, for lack of a better term, less interesting. In the future, it would be prudent for Bluesmyth to remember that God's love is eternal, but he didn't say anything about music lovers.

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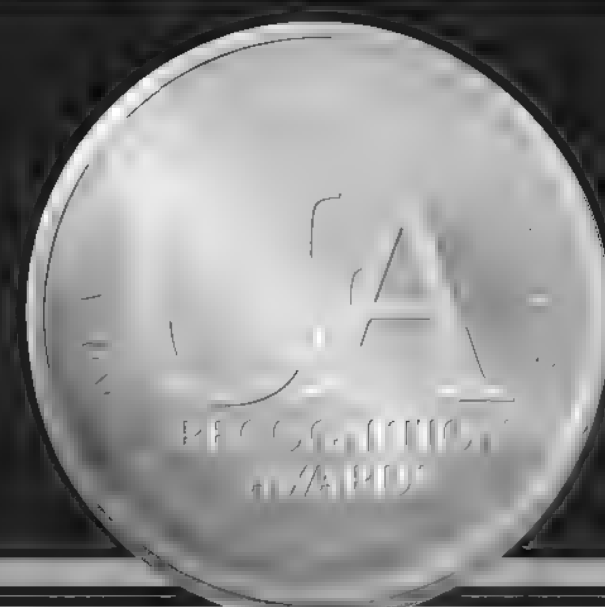
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## Celebrating the achievements of University of Alberta alumni



The University of Alberta Alumni Association is pleased to announce the recipients of the **2009 Alumni Recognition Awards**. The awards will be presented at a gala ceremony on October 1 at the Winspear Centre for Music.

The **Distinguished Alumni Award** recognizes the truly outstanding accomplishments of living U of A alumni who have earned national and international prominence as a result of their achievements.



**F. Ann Hayes**, '61 Dip (RehabMed), '68 MD, is a compassionate physician making significant contributions by providing educational opportunities to vulnerable, marginalized girls in Africa.

**Lewis E. Kay**, '83 BSc, is internationally recognized as being in the forefront of the development and application of NMR spectroscopic methods for the study of protein structure and dynamics.



**Frank T. MacInnis**, '68 BA, '71 LLB, chair and CEO of the Fortune 500 company Emcor Group, is a respected business leader with a lengthy record of giving back to the community and his alma mater.

**Lawrence A. Mysak**, '60 Cert(Arts), '61 BSc, is internationally respected for his pioneering research and inspiring teaching as a climatologist, mathematician, and oceanographer.



For tickets to the awards ceremony contact 780-492-3224 by noon, Wednesday, September 30.

**ALUMNI HORIZON AWARD** recognizes the outstanding and notable achievements of U of A alumni early in their careers.

**Jeff DiBattista**, '95 MSc, '00 PhD  
**Colin C.J. Feasby**, '98 LLB  
**Fay Fletcher**, '84 BPE, '94 MSc, '04 PhD  
**Mark Haroun**, '03 BA  
**Megan H. MacKenzie**, '08 PhD  
**Alfred Orono Orono**, '00 BA, '03 LLB

**ALUMNI AWARD OF EXCELLENCE** celebrates specific, recent accomplishments of U of A alumni.

**Tim Lee**, '99 BDes  
**Colin D. Oberst**, '92 BEc  
**Tara Whitten**, '07 BSc

**ALUMNI HONOUR AWARD** recognizes the significant contributions made over a number of years by U of A alumni in their local communities and beyond.

**Kwasi Ansu-Kyeremeh**, '84 MEd  
**Barb Bromley**, '47 Dip(Nu), '48 BSc(Nu)  
**Sandra Bromley**, '79 BFA  
**William Leslie Kent**, '31 BSc(Eng)  
**Randy Marsden**, '89 BSc(Eng)  
**R. Vance Milligan**, '78 LLB  
**Hugh A. Robertson**, '63 BA, '66 LLB  
**Allan Scott**, '68 BSc(Eng)  
**William J. Sharun**, '72 BSc, '74 DDS  
**Allan G.P. Shewchuk**, '84 LLB  
**Thomas E. Siddon**, '63 BSc(Eng)  
**Alfred Earl Dennis Wardman**, '93 BMed, '95 MD  
**Allan A. Warrack**, '61 BSc(Ag)  
**Brian Webb**, '73 BFA  
**Sandra B. Woitas**, '80 BEc, '96 MEd  
**Ralph B. Young**, '73 MBA

**ALUMNI CENTENARY AWARD** for Volunteer Service to the University  
**Gordon E.W. Barr**, '72 BSc, '74 BA, '77 LLB

**The Honourable Dr. Lois E. Hole**  
**STUDENT SPIRIT AWARD**  
**Eric Fung**, '09 MD

### SPORTS WALL OF FAME

**John B. Barry**, '74 BPE, '79 MA  
**Donald MacKay Newton**, '54 BPE, '54 D(Ed)  
**Kevin Primeau**, '77 BPE



# Sneak preview: the films of the Edmonton International Film Festival

**Runs September 25–October 3**  
**Showtimes vary. See schedule bottom right**  
**\$10–25 at tixonthesquare.ca**

For nine short days, Edmonton will be screening independent cinematic jewels mined from all over the world. You'll laugh, you'll cry — sometimes at the same film. But don't fret over what to see and what to skip — Gateway A&E writers have already found some of the best and worst pieces screening at the 23rd annual Edmonton International Film Festival.

## The Snake

Directed by Adam Goldstein  
 Starring Adam Goldstein



Revolving around a scheming womanizer named Ken, *The Snake* is charming film, but lacks impact. This dark comedy follows Goldstein's scruffy character, as he shamelessly slithers from scene to scene, but brings enough charisma to stop him from being completely detestable.

After recently being mocked by his friends for hitting on a fat girl, Ken decides he needs to redeem himself. He sees a super skinny girl in a restaurant and follows (stalks) her to her body image group, where it's revealed she is forced by her parents to attend. Unwilling to let this skinny vixen named Talia slip by him, Ken decides to join the group to get close to her. Unfortunately, a lesbian has already set her sights on Talia, and isn't happy with Ken as her competition.

Through blatant lies, Ken begins to gain the trust of the group, and eventually Talia, whom he learns will do anything for copious amounts of candy to feed her bulimia. However, enabling her disorder doesn't work out ideally for Ken in the end.

From an odd encounter with comedian Margaret Cho to an oatmeal-fight with a lesbian, this indie film never lacks surprise. Whether it's mocking eating disorders, or having lots of awkward sexual humour, *The Snake* maintains originality and manages to avoid the typical Hollywood clichés.

Ken remains a likeable asshole, and doesn't grow a heart of gold. Though not hilarious, *The Snake* is still a fun, off-beat, envelope pusher.

—Josh Wiersma

## The Scenesters

Directed by Todd Berger  
 Starring Blaise Miller, Suzanne May, Jeff Grace, Kevin Brennan, and Todd Berger



The East Village of Los Angeles is trapped in a black-and-white facade and the lives of seemingly every hipster in a 10-block radius are at stake. This is just a taste of what you're in for in the refreshing 96-minute flick *The Scenesters*.

This film-within-a-film begins in a court room and the questioning is all based upon a piece of evidence that happens to be a film entitled *The Scenesters*. The film contains imperative information pertaining to an enigmatic serial killer who is the product of two naïve filmmakers: Roger (Jeff

Grace), and Wallace (Todd Berger).

These artists team up with the very intelligent Charlie (Blaise Miller) — who's learned most of what he knows about crime scenes from watching *CSI* — to try and catch the threatening serial killer, thus creating the piece of evidence (the film in question). Combining their skills leads them on a complicated search which eventually builds to a captivating climax.

Writer and director Todd Berger has constructed a plot that's unpredictable, which is difficult to achieve for crime-driven movies. He also effectively mocks the typical old Hollywood crime dramas. The film-within-a-film scenario allows for some great cinematography moments in gray-scale as well. The real treat, however, is the performances, which always deliver genuine laughs — a rarity in today's world of bathroom humour and slapstick comedy.

—Elise Belzil

## Midgets vs. Mascots

Directed by Ron Carlson  
 Starring Gary Coleman, Jason Mewes, and Scottie Pippen



If you were to mix a generous amount of stupidity with a whopping mouthful of crude, you might arrive at the mockumentary *Midgets vs. Mascots*. It's like the filmmakers were taking their writing cues from horny, hyperactive 12-year-old boys. The movie has a basic plot: a midget pornstar/mascot legend kicks the bucket, leaving millions in inheritance money, but here's the kicker: he doesn't exactly leave it to anyone specific.

His hoochie of a third wife and prick of a son must recruit teams of mascots and midgets and then pit them against each other for the money. Then, a jumble of farts, tits, shit, vomit, insults, and mascot sex ensue — basically anything that would send a pubescent boy into spasms of laughter. The film also boasts such expertly crafted lines like "isn't bathroom the proper place for flatulence?" and "Truth be told, I fucked a dwarf once — he died."

Then comes the restaurant scene in which the characters spend several minutes naming off as many racial slurs as they can. The ability to come up with a few dozen synonyms for the N-word doesn't make a film subversive and edgy — it makes it an embarrassment to watch. The only thing that kept me from taking out the DVD and snapping it in half was the fact that I was the poor sucker destined to write this review. So take heed, you fortunate ones: don't go see this movie! The title is a misleading minx that humorously bats its eyes before bludgeoning you over the head with rubbish and vulgarity.

—Alice Dolphin

## Pirate for the Sea

Directed by Ron Colby  
 Starring Paul Watson, Robert Hunter, Patrick Moore, and Farley Mowat



*Pirate for the Sea* is not about your typical swashbuckling, parrot-loving scourges of the briny deep. Rather, it chronicles the exploits of activist Captain Paul Watson and his crew of merry hippies — a self-styled "navy [for the] whales, dolphins, and creatures of the sea" — as they enforce justice for marine animals.

The film is a comprehensive documentary detailing the inception and continuing adventures of Watson's Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. With interviews from such influential figures as writer Farley Mowat, actor Martin Sheen, and Watson's uncle Leo, we follow the Sea Shepherd's voyage from Greenpeace offshoot to fully-formed environmental organization.

The film exceeds expectations as narrative to explore the media's perception of so-called "eco-terrorists" as well the crew's thoughts on this sometimes negative perception. The viewer gets a good sense of the misunderstanding faced by Watson as a conservationist, and can sympathize with his frustrations. Filmmaker Ron Colby does an excellent job producing, directing, and narrating *Pirate for the Sea* to ensure that it seems to be more of a heroic epic and less of a tedious documentary.

Watson's jovial personality undoubtedly gives the film life. Whether or not you're interested in the conservation movement, you'll be entertained by the crew's antics (whose essential items were cited as "beer and a helicopter") and some stunning social commentary from the various interviewees.

Above all, *Pirate for the Sea* is a remarkable and emotional film. Moving scenes including a montage of shrieking, mutilated seals will leave you shocked and horrified, not to mention wondering just what's in your tuna sandwich.

—Zoë Wagner

## Not Quite Hollywood

Directed by Mark Hartley  
 Starring Jamie Lee Curtis, Everett de Roche, Antony I. Ginnane, Stacy Keach, George Lazenby, Russell Mulcahy, Grant Page, Quentin Tarantino, and Dennis Hopper



*Not Quite Hollywood: The Wild, Untold Story of Ozploitation!* is a love letter to the Aussie exploitation films of the '70s and early '80s, where full-on nudity and graphic violence were encouraged, rather than frowned upon. Moving through clips and interviews at a breakneck speed, this documentary gleefully catalogues all the cinematic smut, gore, and action you could possibly pack into 102 minutes.

Interviews with directors, actors, and critics of the era — not to mention Quentin Tarantino in full-on fanboy mode — take us from Australia's tentative first steps towards home-grown filmmaking, to the eruption of R-rated genre pics that occurred in years following.

With snippets of more than 80 movies, *Not Quite Hollywood* occasionally feels more like a clipshow than an editorial with a through line. But it does raise some interesting notions about cultural identity. As one Australian critic comments, "It was really a sense of shock and horror that we were going to admit to the wider world that we were yahoos."

While the subject matter may not appeal to the casual moviegoer, *Not Quite Hollywood* makes the convincing argument that the exploitation films — though hardly the pinnacle of high art — had their own twisted flashes of innovation and brilliance.

—Allie Hillier

## My Suicide

Directed by Ron Carlson  
 Starring Gabriel Sunday, Brooke Nevin, David Carradine, and Mariel Hemingway



Nerdy boy wants popular girl. Girl doesn't know boy exists. Boy does something crazy that gets girl's attention. Girl admits she hurts beneath her happy facade. Boy and girl unite by the melancholy of their existences, followed by a comically brief sex scene and cartoon samurai fight with therapist.

Wait, what?

*My Suicide* unfolds with an extremely familiar story, but Art is in the details. This film owes much of its success to editing. The careful composition of thousands of scenes, often cartoon fantasy, and sometimes shaky hand-held filming, perfectly reflects the confused, jumbled lives of its characters.

Gabriel Sunday plays Archie Williams, the prototypical nerd, who breaks the fourth wall without apology and, with self-deprecating humour, laments over the stereotype that is his life. Brooke Nevin stars opposite him as Sierra Silver, a self-mutilating girl traumatized by her brother's death and parents' abandonment. The candid, realistic nature of the acting and cinematography makes the documentary format very effective, and at times too familiar and realistic for comfort.

Rife with movie references, from blockbusters such as *Titanic* and *The Matrix* to more esoteric choices like *The Life Aquatic*, and interspersed with wise words about death in the scruffy voice of David Carradine, *My Suicide* is a delight to any film buff.

Though by no means perfect, *My Suicide* introduces controversial viewpoints on the right to choose one's death, the social stigma surrounding suicide, and the nature of voyeurism. Although inevitably a teen movie, *My Suicide's* clever composition makes it the very best of that genre.

—Bruce Cinnamon

## SHOWTIMES

### The Snake

Sunday, September 27 at 10:00 p.m. (ECC1)

### The Scenesters

Friday, October 2 at 7:15 p.m. (ECC1)

### Midgets vs. Mascots

Wednesday, September 30 at 9:30 p.m. (ECC1)

### Pirate for the Sea

Friday, October 2 at 1:30 p.m. (ECC 2)

Saturday, October 3 at 12:00 p.m. (ECC 1)

### Not Quite Hollywood

Friday, September 25 at 9:30 p.m. (ECC 2)

### My Suicide

Friday, October 2 at 9:15 p.m. (ECC2)

### Empire City Centre (10200–102 Ave.)

ECC1=Empire City Centre Theatre 1

ECC2=Empire City Centre Theatre 2

For more information on these and other films playing at the Edmonton International Film Festival, go to:

[www.edmontonfilmfest.com](http://www.edmontonfilmfest.com)



# Cove not for the tuna-lovers

## filmreview

### The Cove

Directed by Louie Psihoyos  
Starring Richard O'Barry and Louie Psihoyos  
The Garneau Theatre (8712-109 St.)  
Now Playing

ALICE DOLPHIN  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

I'm not a documentary type of person. I usually avoid them on the assumption that they're boring, depressing, or worst of all, educational. *The Cove*, while far from dull, certainly doesn't sparkle with lighthearted wit either. It's a film that delivers a wallop of outrage that would be insignificant on its own, but is useful when they attach it to the typical activist message: only we can stop this. You're all probably wondering what exactly we need to stop — just the slaughter of 23,000 dolphins in Japan every year. Find that number shocking? I did.

The Japanese government doesn't want us to know about their dolphin extermination. This makes filming *The Cove* a dangerous, albeit exciting endeavor. Louie Psihoyos (leader of The Oceanic Preservation Society), Richard O'Barry (activist and former dolphin trainer), and team must devise a way to place their cameras around the cove without detection. So in the manner of clever international spies, they hide their cameras in fake rock facades, creep along the cove in the dark of night, and plant the cameras in prime viewing locations.

Some people might wonder: why bother? Why does it matter if the Japanese government harvests dolphins? After all, we harvest cows.

This is true, and non-vegetarians like me might feel hypocritical in condemning the Japanese government. However, the documentary gives us meat-eaters ample justifications to condemn without guilt. For instance, one goal

of these Japanese fishermen is to capture the dolphins for the trainers, who then select ones to ship off to the cramped, noisy likes of Sea World, so that visitors can dole out a lot of cash to watch them perform. Dolphins that don't get chosen are dispatched within the next day. Their meat ends up in marketplaces, often purposely mislabeled as healthier kinds of whale meat because dolphin meat, rightly, has a reputation of being mercury-laden and toxic.

These facts alone don't make dolphin butchering much more tragic than those of bovines. It's the impression of the dolphin's human-like intelligence that makes a difference. The documentary sucks you in with shots of dolphins joyfully skimming the waves, completely carefree. Then, it amps up your dolphin love by mentioning that they've saved surfers from sharks, showing underwater belly-rubs, and the truly understanding gaze of a dolphin.

O'Barry even claims that a dolphin he trained was sentient enough to commit suicide. Dolphins are voluntary breathers like us, he explains and they must surface to receive oxygen. O'Barry says his dolphin swam into his arms, looked him right in the eyes, and then swam to the bottom of the tank one last time. I was skeptical, but O'Barry presented it in such a way that you couldn't completely quash the possibility.

All these reinforcements of a dolphin's intelligence lead up to the most significant argument against their killing — and perhaps the most damning — which is the footage of their deaths. Dolphins thrash through blood red waters, nets blocking their escape, while harpoons kill their movements. My vision went blurry and tears dripped down my cheeks — a phenomenon that is repeating itself as I write this. So yes, *The Cove* is a depressing documentary, one that you can't just conveniently shrug off in the lobby, but it's not something you want to shrug off. Instead, it's something you need to tell everyone because, who knows? Maybe "we can stop it" isn't activist mumbo jumbo after all.

# Cloudy with a chance of silliness

## filmreview



### Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs

Directed by Phil Lord and Chris Miller  
Starring Anna Faris, Bill Hader, Bruce Campbell, James Caan, and Mr. T  
Now Playing

JANNA DENG  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

What movie could successfully meld together a talking monkey, meatballs the size of houses, and a sardine theme park? Well, *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* makes a valiant attempt, but the merits of this blend of events aren't entirely successful. After viewing a few trailers, I was skeptical over the plausibility of such an unusual plot gimmick. As I had not read the book the film is based on, I went into the movie without any expectations, but the result was still pleasantly surprising.

The movie focuses on a fishing town and its choice characters. Young inventor Flint Lockwood (Bill Hader) is alienated by his intelligence and eccentricity, but wants to be accepted by the town's citizens, including his reticent father. In order to gain acceptance, Flint builds a machine that turns water into food, saving everyone from the pain of continually eating sardines, because as the characters discover in the film, sardines are gross. This machine is accidentally blasted into the sky, and it catches the

attention of ambitious Mayor Shelbourne (Bruce Campbell) and also becomes an opportunity for news channel intern Sam Sparks (Anna Faris) to become a legitimate meteorologist.

The film remains humorous with the right amount of plausibility and imagination. *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* will stand up as an enjoyable family movie, but is definitely aimed more towards children. At times, its implementation of the themes is too forceful to be natural. Personal acceptance, healthy eating, looking past appearances, preventing racial discrimination, and accepting redemption are all crammed into its 90-minute run time with the ease of an 18-wheeler entering the Anthony Henday during rush hour. While amusing, however, it lacks the sensitivity found in a film like Pixar's *Up*.

In its defense, the movie often lightens the mood by mocking its own obtuse ethics and cartoon stereotypes. As demonstrated in a scene where Flint spends time programming his machine to have a "cool robotic voice" or when the news station puts up a picture of a puppy playing in a meadow, in the hopes that the audience will remember the golden retriever rather than a glasses-wearing, nerdy-looking Sam. Such scenes add a sense of satire that can be appreciated by an adult audience.

The film also combines several innovative ideas to express a unique whimsy and makes the ridiculous credible. Jell-O castles and ice cream winter wonderlands draw audiences into a magical world more wondrous than our own. The 3-D effects act as a fun backdrop to the surreal animation, but it felt like there were missed opportunities where the effects could have been used to enhance the film even more.

The movie is a very light hearted comedy worth seeing, if you can overlook a few forgivable flaws. It was enjoyable on many levels, but with animated marvels such as *Up* and *Wall E*, don't be surprised if your expectations are higher than *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* can fulfill.

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THUR OCTOBER 8 STARLITE ROOM	<b>PILOT SPEED</b> With ELIAS JASON BAJADA PRESENTED BY 102.7 MODERN ROCK
WED OCTOBER 21 MYER HOROWITZ	CKUA presents Arts & Crafts recording artist <b>AMY MILLAN</b> With BAHAMAS
WED OCTOBER 21 PAWNSHOP	THE BEAR, JCL & THE PAWNSHOP PRESENT Featuring GORDIE JOHNSON OF BIG SUGAR <b>GRADY</b>
THUR OCTOBER 29 THE PAWNSHOP	<b>HEY OCEAN!</b>
FRI OCTOBER 30 BRITAX	<b>YOUNG GALAXY</b> PLUS <b>BEND SINISTER</b>
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## Beartrap latest from local filmmakers



### filmpreview

#### Beartrap

Written and directed by Mike Roberston and Arlen Konopaki  
Starring Arlen Konopaki, Lucas Mercer, Laura Rushfeldt, and Christian Hansen  
September 26 at 9 p.m. and September 27 at 7 p.m.  
Metro Cinema (9828-101A Ave)  
Tickets are \$10 at the door, or in advance via Blackbyrd Myoozik (10442-82 Avenue)

BRYAN SAUNDERS  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

There are only two kinds of roommates in this world: good ones and bad ones. And while a good roommate often becomes a best friend, a bad roommate is often messy, creepy, and maybe even just a little insane.

This second type of roommate is the basis for the film *Beartrap*, the latest feature-length work to come out of local production company HighWire Films. Described by co-director and lead actor Arlen Konopaki as a "psychological thriller meets Hitchcockian horror," *Beartrap* is a film about a man named Tom (played by Konopaki) and his experiences with his roommate, Daniel (Lucas Mercer).

"Tom is involved in a breakup with his girlfriend named Sarah, and he is out of a place to live because he was living with his girlfriend," Konopaki explains. "So, he moves in with this guy he meets through some newspaper ads named Daniel.

"Shortly after moving in and getting to know Daniel, some strange things start happening: Daniel is a weird, quirky guy, and things progressively get more and more weird to the point where Tom is kind of wondering if Daniel is all there or if he's just a psychopath."

As co-director Mike Robertson explains, the idea for the movie came from the real-life experiences of one of their friends.

**"One of the things that I'm most proud of with this movie is that it's pretty air-tight in terms of what happens. I don't think there's a scene that you could lose just because you don't need it."**

ARLEN KONOPAKI  
WRITER/DIRECTOR/ACTOR, BEARTRAP

"Some years back, we were talking to our friend and she was telling us about this terrible roommate she'd had — all of these really funny stories [...] we were just like, 'Man, some people just have crazy roommates!'"

While Robertson and Konopaki had originally intended to frame the story within the context of a comedy, it soon became evident that the story would work better as a darker, more dramatic piece. Inspired by some old Alfred Hitchcock films, the two of

them rewrote the script, and they're enormously pleased with the results.

"One of the things that I'm most proud of with this movie is that it's pretty air-tight in terms of what happens," Konopaki points out. "I don't think there's a scene that you could lose just because you don't need it [...]" So the writing was something that was different in terms of our other two films."

The other two movies that Konopaki is referring to are the other two feature-length films that he and Robertson have released over the last few years. In 2005, their first production was called *The Greatest Love Story Ever Told*.

Their second movie *Losing Will* was released in 2007, and in addition to going to a film festival in New York, it was nominated this year for a number of Alberta Motion Picture Industries Association (AMPIA) awards, including one nomination for Best Feature Film — a category that was eventually won by Paul Gross' WWI movie, *Passchendaele*.

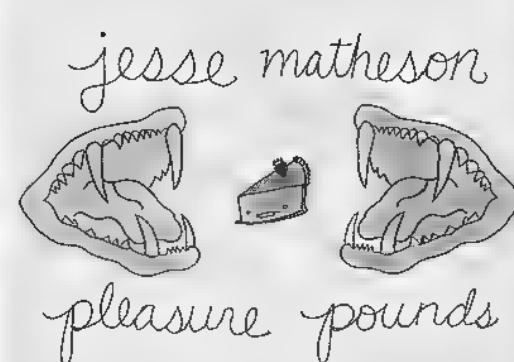
Still, to have their film placed in the same category as Paul Gross' was a huge honour, Konopaki and Robertson agree, and they hope that *Beartrap* will be even more successful.

"We have experience making people laugh, so I'm kind of excited and interested to see if we're going to be able to build that tension, keep people guessing, and creep people out," Konopaki smiles.

To read the review of *Beartrap*, go to  
[www.thegatewayonline.ca](http://www.thegatewayonline.ca)  
on Friday

### albumreview

**Jesse Matheson**  
*Pleasure Pounds*  
Copperspine



BETH STORHEIM  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

*Pleasure Pounds* is the latest effort from Saskatchewan-born, Vancouver-based singer/songwriter Jesse Matheson. The running theme of this album is the connection between food and sex, with Matheson's vocals adding a sultriness to this sometimes-humorous, sometimes-melancholic collection of love songs. The subject matter ranges from the straightforward sexual entreaties "Make Out" and "Moan," to the sexual escapades of a necrophiliac

in "She Does it in Graveyards". Many of the songs made me laugh out loud, including "The French Song," which is Matheson's cute attempt to string together every French word he knows just to impress a girl, and "Good Times," in which Matheson ironically recounts all of the "good times" he and his girlfriend had — most of which were more hilariously bad than good.

The album's sound is very indie-folk, with threads of countrified

rock running through it (you can hear this especially in "She Does it in Graveyards" and "Orgy in Portland"). All of the songs are brilliantly written, with well-orchestrated instrumentation, and the album vibrates (pun intended) with a sound that reflects a dark, hedonistic sensuality that's been burnt around the edges, but still carries a soft, warm underbelly. If there's a fault to this album, it might be the often repetitious lyrics, which sometimes take away from the initial humour.

If you enjoy indie or folk music at all, and can handle a huge dose of repetition, but always imaginative love anthems, then don't say you weren't warned if one day you find that you've fallen under the spell of Matheson's infectious lyrical charm. This is one Canadian artist to keep an eye on.



# Still a beautiful world for Kozub

## albumrelease

### Wilfred N & the Grown Men

*With Real Fake Diamonds*

Saturday, September 26 at 8 p.m.

The ARTery (9535 Jasper Ave.)

\$15 at the door

JOEL RACKEL

Arts & Entertainment Writer

If you asked members of U2 if it's been easy to make constantly relevant music since 1979, they'd probably look at you like you just stole a microphone from a 19-year-old country musician at an awards show. But if you were to compare U2 to mountaineers struggling to climb a musical Mount Everest, you would make Edmonton's own Wilfred Kozub look like a one-footed sherpa carrying a heavy-set woman uphill. Kozub's band Wilfred N & the Grown Men formed in Edmonton in 1979 and released their first record in 1984 — this year marks the 30th and 25th anniversary year for the band and the album respectively.

Though 30 years in the music business is impressive, it's never been easy for Kozub who has had "bits of success here and there." Some of the band's new album *Stop, Go, Romeo* lyrically deals with what Kozub calls "the

expression of feeling like a Canadian, isolated up here."

"Every once in a while you try and do something to make a splash in the world and it doesn't really happen [...] Trying to make a statement in a big world when there are bigger things out there stealing the attention and still you keep trying."

Kozub, who studied music at Grant MacEwan and snagged an English degree from the University of Alberta, is the definition of a "do-it-yourself man". He writes the music and lyrics for Wilfred N the Grown Men, records the tunes in his home studio and even releases the albums on his own label, Zonik Records. These are impressive credentials, but new technology now allows other less experienced music-makers to do the same, and Kozub says The Grown Men are feeling the pressure.

"There is an awareness that there are a lot of big machines out there in the music industry and a zillion artists, especially with the advent of home recording and easy, free recording on things like *GarageBand*. Anyone can be on Myspace and anyone can be on a number of other sites. The world is clogged with stuff, so we are just doing our little bit and trying to do it well, and if we are lucky enough to have a song that really clicks with people, that's

what I really want. The next album I'm going to be going for it again."

Despite the fight to get his music heard, Kozub is warm and positive. He smiles throughout our interview, brings me a copy of his new CD, and even offers to buy my tea. He seems to recognize how rare of a thing he has with his current project.

"I'm happy doing this work. As a band for 30 years, we're still around, whereas a lot of those bands that existed back then were fairly short-lived and disappeared. Although we've never been a real strong presence, we are always there and will continue to be there."

Optimism like this shows itself in some of Kozub's work, namely in one of *Stop, Go, Romeo*'s stand-out tracks "Don't Worry (It's Still a Beautiful World)."

"I brought in a lot of those things that kind of worry a lot of people — the Middle East, the environment, economic problems, we have water [in Canada] and the Americans probably want it [...] I'm kind of a positive person and even when there is all this stuff in the world that is weighing on you in the back of your mind, people are nice, this is a great city, it's still a beautiful world, we still work somehow."

No one said sherpas weren't wise.



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BEARS  
FOOTBALL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25  
Foote Field 7 p.m.



Offensive Team Leaders

Alberta

Touchdowns	2 (Mike Wasylyniuk)
Receptions	13 (David Court)
Rushing Yards	226 (Tenday 'Ozzy)
Passer Yards	486 (Quade Armstrong)

Saskatchewan

Touchdowns	1 (Shayne Dueck)
Receptions	15 (Travis Gorski)
Rushing Yards	62 (Tyler O'Gorman)
Passer Yards	547 (Laurence Nixon)

Defensive Team Leaders

Alberta

Tackles	19 (Duncan Morris, Jason Hetnerington)
Interceptions	2 (Cnr's Mucnena)
Sacks	4 (Craig Gerbrandt)
Fumbles	1 (Cnr's Mucnena)

Saskatchewan

Tackles	14.5 (Taylor Wallace)
Interceptions	2 (Bryce McCaig)
Sacks	1 (Vaughn Rice, David Rypinski)
Fumbles	1 (Carter Kopyak)

Canada West Standings

	G	W	L	Pt
Saskatchewan	2	2	0	4
Simon Fraser	3	2	1	4
Calgary	3	2	1	4
Alberta	3	1	2	2
Regina	3	1	2	2
Manitoba	3	1	2	2
UBC	3	1	2	2



UFRCA/JFUC  
TOP 10  
RANKINGS

1. Laval Rouge et Or (3-0)
2. Western Ontario Mustangs (3-0)
3. Saskatchewan Huskies (2-0)
4. Calgary Dinos (2-1)
5. Queen's Golden Gaels (3-0)
6. Montreal Carabins (2-1)
7. St. FX X-Men (2-0)
8. Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks (2-1)
9. Saint Mary's Huskies (1-1)
10. Guelph Gryphons (2-1)

Undefeated Dogs mush into Foote Field

Fresh off a key win over SFU, the Bears will look to knock off the number-three ranked Huskies



FILE PHOTO/SAM BROOKS

**RUSH HOUR** Alberta has struggled this season against the run, but that may change this weekend against the Huskies who have yet to score a rushing TD.

EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

For the second time in as many weeks, the Bears football team will take to the field against a nationally ranked opponent as the Saskatchewan Huskies make the trip down the Yellowhead to put both their number-three ranking and undefeated record on the line.

The Green and Gold come into the game fresh off their first victory of the season after they defeated the Simon Fraser Clan last weekend on the road in Burnaby, B.C. notching a 28-16 win.

"The big thing was we had field position on them for most of the game. We always had the short field, and our defence came up with three interceptions which tilted the field in our direction," Bears head coach Jerry Friesen explained.

The Huskies are coming into Friday's contest off a bye week, having scored a pair of narrow

victories in the weeks leading up. A perennial powerhouse, Saskatchewan remains in the upper tier of not only the Canada West, but the country as a whole.

"Teams, as they prepare, they look at us and say 'their run defence isn't very strong,' so they're going to try and capitalize on that. We're getting better."

JERRY FRIESEN  
HEAD COACH BEARS FOOTBALL

The ground battle will be a key facet of the game not only because the Bears have struggled to stop the run, but also due to the Huskies' inept rush attack. The Dogs have the worst rush offence in the league through two games, averaging a miniscule 61

yards per game and have yet to score a rushing touchdown. On the other side of the rushing equation is an Alberta rush defence that's given up a league-high average of 226.7 yards per game on the ground.

"Teams, as they prepare, they look at us and say 'their run defence isn't very strong,' so they're going to try and capitalize on that," Friesen pointed out. "We're getting better. In Simon Fraser, the difference was two or three runs which they cranked off on us, but other than that it was good solid defence."

As the Bears' quarterback situation goes, so too does the offence. It's been an interesting year at the pivot position, as newcomer Julian Marchand has performed when he's had the opportunity, but has been used sparingly as Quade Armstrong has held onto the starting job. Armstrong, a fifth-year senior, got the start last week in Burnaby and will once again start under centre for the

Bears this Friday, but don't be surprised if both QBs see the field, as the Bears will look to keep the opposing defence off balance.

"Julian can always come in and mix it up — it's a whole different challenge for defences as they look at defending Quade and then defending Julian," Friesen pointed out.

The Bears and Huskies will meet in what will be the first of two meetings this season between the conference rivals, as the Bears — despite two close losses to open the season — sit two points behind first-place Saskatchewan in the standings.

The game will be another major indicator of whether or not the Bears can hang with the conference's best as they did against Calgary two weeks ago.

Action gets underway Friday night at 7 p.m. at Foote Field as the Huskies and Bears hit the turf, with the game broadcast online at [www.bears.ualberta.ca](http://www.bears.ualberta.ca).

PLAYER SPOTLIGHT



ANDY DEVLIN/LAMEDIA

From the Buffalo capital of Canada to the City of Champions, and a couple places in between, one

thing has been clear: Jess Valleau can play.

Valleau, a native of Wainwright, Alberta, has opened eyes early on this season with his speed and playmaking ability on both offence and special teams. His skills have helped make him one of the conference's best rookie performers, as Valleau navigates his way through his rookie campaign as part of the Bears football team.

Valleau came into training camp looking just to score a starting role with the team, and that's exactly what he did, cracking the opening game roster against UBC. Since then, the Physical Education and Recreation major hasn't looked back.

After a year off of school that saw Valleau spend time with the North Battleford Northstars of the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League, he's made a successful transition back into football, leading

the conference in rookie all purpose yards and kick return yards.

With a great start to his rookie season, Valleau has the potential to be an offensive spark-plug for years to come in Alberta Green and Gold.

Statistical Story

Kick return average

1. Jess Thompson (SFU) 22.8 yards/return
2. Jess Valleau (AB) 21.5 yards/return

All-purpose yards

1. Matt Walter (CGY) 180.3 yards/game
7. Jess Valleau (AB) 116.3 yards/game

Receiving yards/game

1. Anthony Parker (CGY) 126.3 yards
10. Jess Valleau (AB) 54.3 yards



# Pandas Rugby ready to open regular season

EVAN DAUM  
Sports Editor

With the Pandas rugby season opening this weekend on the road, it marks the start of a year that will see a new Canada West landscape. The number-seven ranked Pandas head to Victoria to open the season against the Vikes on Friday, before heading to Vancouver Sunday to square off against the UBC Thunderbirds.

The Pandas will be without 10 players from last season's squad, and will also be competing against a new team in the form of the Calgary Dinos, who will make their Canada West debut this weekend in Lethbridge against the defending CIS champion Pronghorns.

Of the 10 players who have moved on from the '08 Pandas, the biggest loss will undoubtedly be last year's Canada West Player of the Year Chelsea Stone, who spent four seasons with the team. Other key losses for the Pandas include team captains Hilary Kornder and Brett Sarchuk, who both played back-row positions for the squad.

With a double-digit loss of roster players from last year's team, head coach Matt Parrish has brought in a number of new recruits with varying club team backgrounds. One

of the challenges facing Parrish is taking those athletes and getting them to play in the system he uses.

"We're very fortunate that I've had a longstanding relationship with the clubs and I've coached with a lot of the coaches," Parrish explained. "They're coming here and they're just learning our habits. For most of the club players, it's just a little bit of a step up with intensity compared to a club."

Some of the new faces that will don the Green and Gold for the rugby squad will include scrum half Fran Grabinsky and fly half Allison Fairbairn, who will both figure heavily in the Pandas' future success.

Last season saw Alberta win all three of their matches in the seeding tournament for the conference playoffs. The Pandas eventually fell in the conference final to the Lethbridge Pronghorns, but still qualified for nationals with the second-place finish, dropping both their matches at the CIS tournament.

With Calgary's inclusion, the regular season will consist of six games, followed by the conference tournament where the top-three teams based on regular season standing qualify, along with the host. The addition of Calgary is welcome news for Parrish who is hoping their



FILE PHOTO/NATALIE CLIMENHAGA

**TRY TIME** The Pandas open their '09 season on the west coast against UVic.

inclusion in the conference is only the start of rugby expansion.

"We've been pushing for that for ages," Parrish said. "It's going to bring up the standard of rugby in the province and Calgary especially."

"I would love to see two or three more [teams], so Calgary is a good step."

The Pandas will have the added benefit of hosting this season's conference championship, meaning they won't get any regular season action at home, but will gladly take the hosting duties

for the tournament and the automatic berth into the postseason.

"It's nice to be at home — we haven't hosted the Canada West since 2002. It's always nice for the girls to have their parents and family, and get out and watch them on home ground. Hopefully there's a bit of home advantage for us."

The Pandas take on UVic this Friday, and then travel to UBC (the host of this year's national tourney), for the second half of the weekend set on Sunday.

## RUGBY SCHEDULE



**FRIDAY, SEPT. 25**  
at Victoria  
5 p.m.



**SUNDAY, SEPT. 27**  
at UBC  
2 p.m.



**FRIDAY, OCT. 16**  
at Calgary  
4:30 p.m.



**SATURDAY, OCT. 17**  
at Lethbridge  
3 p.m.



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From playoff dreams to playing out the season, it's been a season to forget for the Brew crew in Milwaukee, who won't be brewing up any postseason magic. But fear not Brewers fans — the sausage races are alive and well. There's just something entertaining about a mascot sausage thundering around the diamond. If you want to honour these great warriors of wacky wardrobe, come to a sports meeting on third floor SUB every Thursday at 4 p.m.

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# NFL thugs should stay out of CFL

Football players who have legal issues south of the border shouldn't just look to the Canadian Football league as a place to bye their time



BREN  
CARGILL

Sports  
Commentary

The Canadian Football League has long been, and will always be, the little brother of the National Football League. It will always get the hand-me-downs of its American sibling as far as players who just couldn't make the cut coming north for work. They're all decent football players and good people who want to make a living; they come up to Canada, and work hard trying to make a team with a limited number of spots for imports. Unfortunately, the teams of the CFL have decided in the last few years to give those roster spots to players who couldn't earn a job down south; not because they didn't have the talent to make it in the NFL, but because their off-field antics have limited their ability to play on the field.

Many of the coaches in the CFL have developed a habit of ignoring major character deficiencies in players with huge amounts of talent, rushing to sign them faster than Adam "Pacman" Jones can make it rain in a strip club. Examples include R.J. Soward, who was suspended by the NFL, and bounced out of the league for drug and alcohol abuse; Ricky Williams, the former All-Pro

NFL running back who came up to play with the Toronto Argonauts after being suspended for failing drug tests; Onterrio "Whizzinator" Smith; and the most notorious of all, Lawrence Phillips.

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Phillips is the prime example of my other problem with the CFL: consistently fawning over guys that seldom ever make it because of their attitude and work ethic. He came up to the CFL talking about how he was going to obliterate everyone in this silly northern football league, went through Montreal (where he was released in camp for insubordination), and wound up in Calgary putting up pedestrian rushing stats. Phillips is now serving at least 10 years in prison for running over a group of teens with his car after a pickup football game, with potentially another 25 years coming for assaulting his former girlfriend.

Similarly, R.J. Soward put up middle-of-the-road numbers and is now retired from football, while Onterrio Smith showed up to Winnipeg Blue Bombers camp 20 pounds overweight, injured himself in training camp, and was released at the beginning of the 2006 season.

Lastly, who can forget Ricky Williams, who was the final straw that forced the CFL to bring in a new rule where teams cannot sign players suspended by the NFL. Williams put up a mere 526 yards and two touchdowns during his time in Toronto.

All this brings us to Winnipeg Blue Bombers head coach Mike Kelly and his failed courtships of the notoriously infamous Adam "Pacman" Jones. Kelly had an agreement with "Pacman" to come up to Winnipeg on a one-year deal, but after Jones put up a YouTube video where he confused the CFL with the upstart United Football League, and declared that he was going to come up here and dominate with ease (and enough time left to return for an NFL playoff push), things quickly fell apart.

Kelly wanted to sign a guy who not only disrespected the CFL, but has been arrested over five times and has been accused of ordering a shooting outside of a strip club. If it wasn't for a large public outcry from fans and media on Jones, the Blue Bombers would have become an even bigger circus then they are already are.

If this continues, the CFL might as well start setting up exhibition games against the U.S. Prison Football League.

## sportsshorts

Compiled by Matt Pretty  
and Evan Daum

### Pandas Soccer

The soccer Pandas (2-2-0) will be away from home for the second weekend in a row as they travel south for an Alberta road swing. The Lethbridge Pronghorns (0-4-0) are the opponent on Saturday afternoon, while Sunday's matchup is against the Calgary Dinos (1-3-0). Alberta will look to build on the momentum from last weekend's wins over the Regina Cougars and Manitoba Bisons. The Pandas will be led by Canada West Athlete of the Week Amanda Black, who notched a pair of goals and two assists in two matches. Both games this weekend start at 12 p.m.

### Bears Soccer

After a successful homestand against Fraser Valley and Victoria, the Bears soccer side (2-0-2) also head south to take on Lethbridge (0-4-0) and Calgary (1-2-1). Alberta leads the conference in goals against with only two in four games, and goalkeeper Jaswinder Gill will want to keep it that way against the Pronghorns' and Dinos' relatively lacklustre offences. Saturday's game at Lethbridge kicks off at 2 p.m., while Sunday's match in Calgary starts at 2:15 p.m.

### Play Soccer So They Can

It was a successful weekend for the Bears soccer squad on Saturday and Sunday, but it was also the starting point for a fundraising initiative aimed at supporting youth in war-affected Uganda.

The Bears and Victoria Vikes teamed up to help fundraise for the organization Play Soccer So They Can, which is looking to raise funds

for developing soccer facilities in Uganda. The Bears and Vikes fundraiser, which went last Sunday at Foote Field was the first of the campaign, which is hoping to raise \$10 000 this season through various events across North America.

The two teams managed to raise \$400 for the charity, and Matt Wilson, the fundraiser's organizer, was pleased with the results of the first fundraiser of its kind not only in Edmonton, but of the campaign as a whole.

"I think it's a great idea to bring people together to play the world's most popular sport, so that youth that are living in places of conflict, poverty, and inequality get an opportunity to play soccer too. The U of A and UVic men's soccer teams were both very happy to be involved and it felt great to have brought together serious University soccer players to play a competitive match in the name of helping others."

Play Soccer So They Can is hoping to organize their next major fundraiser with teams across the continent joining the cause this weekend with fundraisers at various soccer games.

If you're interested in supporting Play Soccer So They Can, visit [playsotheycan.com](http://playsotheycan.com).

### Bears and Pandas Golf

After hosting a tournament at RedTail Landing last weekend, the Bears and Pandas golf teams head to Lethbridge for the University of Lethbridge Invitational. Paradise Canyon Golf Course will host the two-day tournament on Saturday and Sunday. Tee-off on both days is at 8 a.m.

### Pandas Field Hockey

The Pandas field hockey squad (0-1-1) will commence their Battle of Alberta series this weekend as they take on the

Calgary Dinos (0-2-0) in Cowtown. The Pandas conceded just one goal in last weekend's Victoria series, which included a 0-0 tie, while the Dinos gave up six goals in a pair of 3-0 shutout losses to UBC in their opening weekend. As the top three Canada West finishers move on to the CIS Championships, it will come down to each series between these two teams to determine who misses out, so every game will be huge. Both games start at 1 p.m. in Calgary.

### Bears Hockey

The puck Bears continue exhibition play this weekend as they travel to Saskatoon to participate in the Huskie Invitational. Alberta will play bitter rival Saskatchewan on Friday night, and then line up against the Lethbridge Pronghorns on Saturday afternoon. The Bears beat the Huskies 5-2 at Clare Drake last weekend in the Brick Invitational. Friday's game starts at 8 p.m., while Saturday's faceoff goes at 3 p.m.

### Pandas Hockey

The hockey Pandas, meanwhile, will host a series of exhibition games this weekend. The NAIT Ooks will come to Clare Drake tonight for some cross-town action starting at 5:15 p.m. Alberta will host UBC on Saturday at 4:30 p.m. in an all-Canada-West matchup, before going up against the B.C. Under-18 provincial team at 12:25 p.m. on Sunday afternoon.

### Bears Volleyball

The defending national champion Volley-Bears head to the B.C. Interior this week, to play the Trinity Western Spartans in a two-game exhibition series. The opener will be on Thursday night in Penticton, while Friday's game will take place in Kelowna. First serve on Thursday is at 8 p.m., and Friday's match starts at 9 p.m.

GLITTER GULCH  
PRESENTS

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AND  
LANCE LOREE

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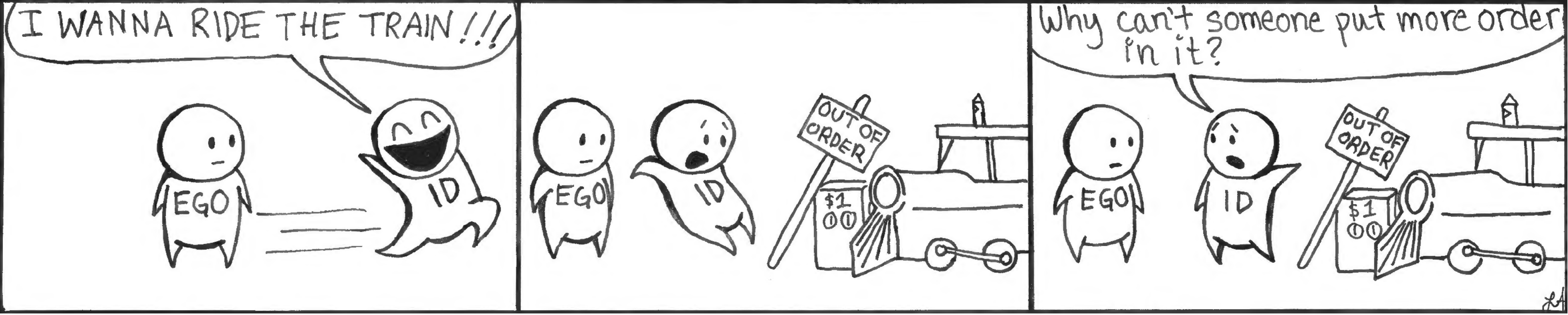








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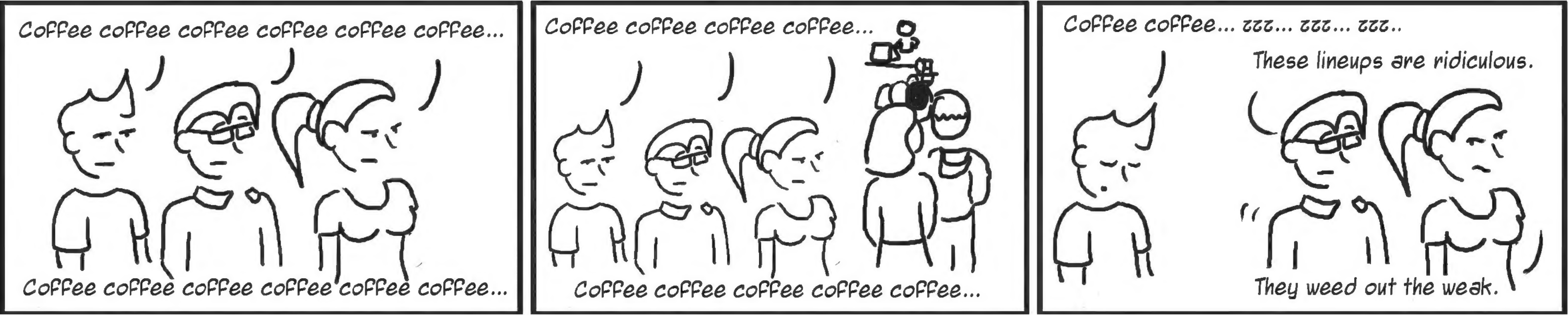
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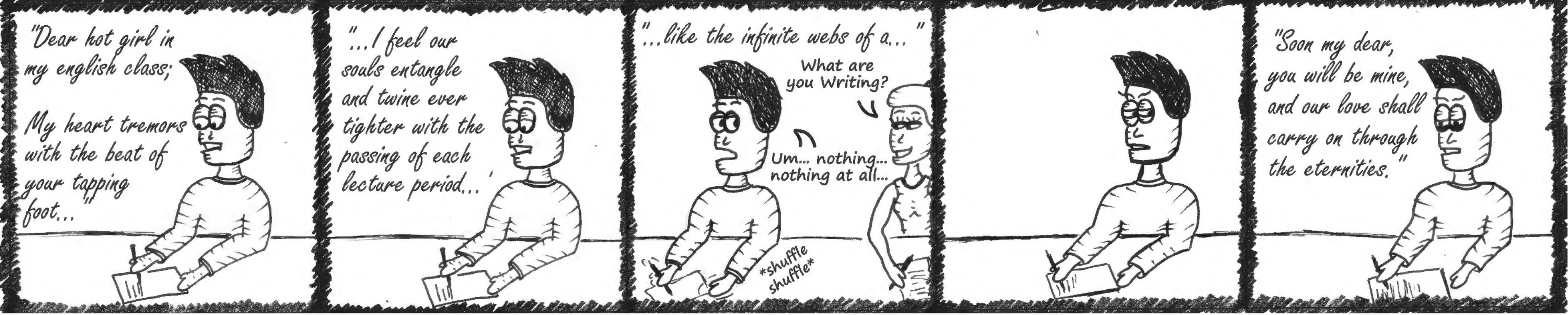
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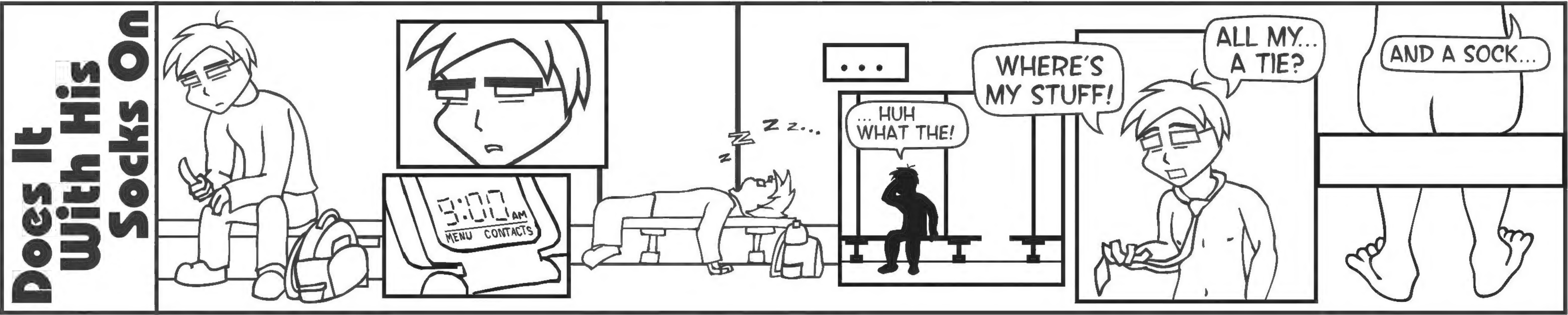
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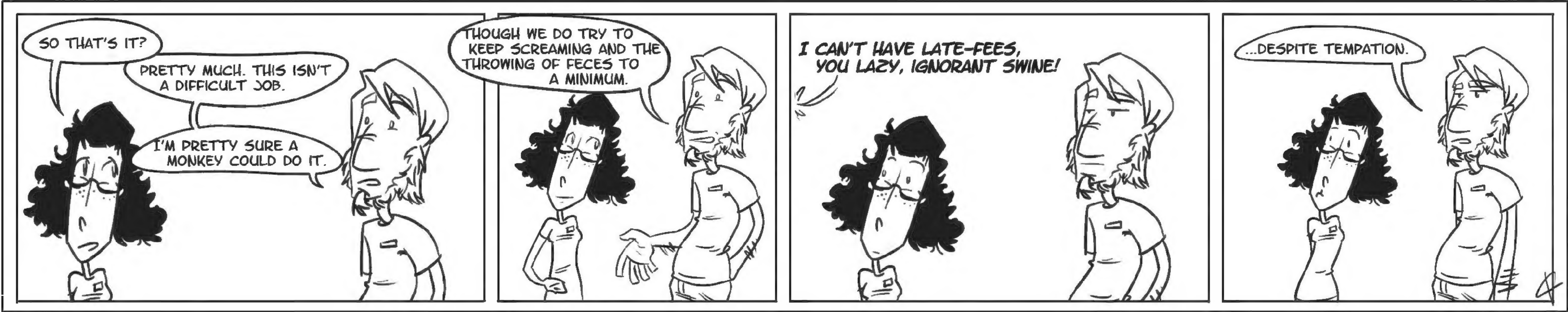


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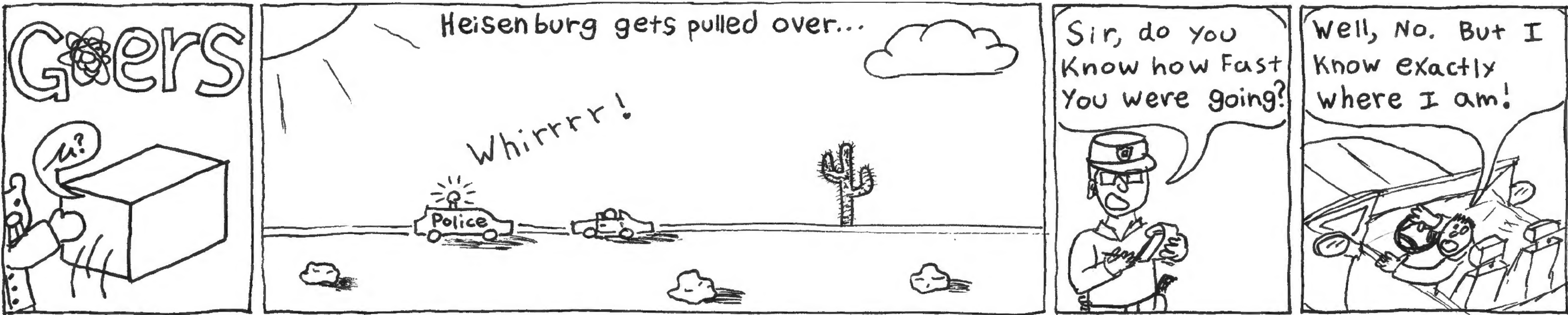




PEOPLE WATCHING by Faye Campbell



GEERS by Jackie Powell and Jordan Larson



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Karma Tashi Ling Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Society welcomes you back to campus. Buddhist practice Weds. and Suns, meditation instruction. Thurs, Oct. 15 to Nov. 26, 7:00 pm, resident teacher, Lama Ani Kunsang offers Buddhism for Beginners. Come anytime. For more information visit [www.karmatashiling.ca](http://www.karmatashiling.ca).

EMPLOYMENT-PART TIME

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Volunteer with Best Buddies! Best Buddies is a national charitable organization that pairs students with adults with intellectual disabilities to form one-to-one friendships. Info session: Tue, Sept. 29 in SUB 4-20 from 12:30-2 or contact [shayna@ualberta.ca](mailto:shayna@ualberta.ca) for more info.

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astronowatch

by Kati Kovacs

Happy Equinox everyone! On Wednesday at 3:18 p.m., the sun crossed the celestial equator. That means it's officially fall, although the weather of the past couple of days doesn't seem to reflect that. Oh, global warming — I love that you extend the use of my summer wardrobe. I'm not ready to wear tights and socks yet. Bare legs all the way!

Humanity now has a new destination among the stars: CoRoT-7b. Last week scientists released their latest findings about this exoplanet, which is located in the constellation of Monoceros, The Unicorn.

CoRoT-7b is the first confirmed rocky planet that we've detected outside our solar system. While its diameter is about 1.8 times larger than us, its density is almost the same. Too bad it's almost 500 light years away and tidily locked into its extremely close orbit.

CoRoT-7b has one side always facing away from its sun, and one side constantly burning. It orbits its sun once every 20.4 hours. Just imagine all the birthday parties you'd have!

*AstronoWatch is a weekly feature that covers the goings-on in the night skies, the galaxy, and sometimes even Kati's personal life. Keep up with Astronowatch online at [thegatewayonline.ca/astronowatch](http://thegatewayonline.ca/astronowatch) or check out the FABservatory's site at [www.phys.ualberta.ca/observatory](http://www.phys.ualberta.ca/observatory)*

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